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THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the fine Arts.

No. 1775.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1861.

THREEPENCE Stamped Edition, 4d.

NOTICE.

The price of THE ATHENAUM from October 5 is THREEPENCE.

Thirty years ago, when THE ATHEN AUM came into Thirty years ago, when The Athen Rum came into the hands of its present Proprietors, its price was Eightpence, and its contents, with advertisements, forty-eight columns. Convinced that the circulation of Literary Journals was restricted by high price, and that every advantage offered to the public would bring increase of circulation and authority, the Proprietors reduced the price one-half-to Fourpence. The experiment succeeded, and cheap Literary Journals became the rule.

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The Proprietors have always held to the principle then proved. They have given to the public the benefit of every change in the law, increasing the size of the paper without increase of price, until the average has become about sixty columns of literary

average has occure about stay contains of therary matter, with forty columns of advertisements, selected so as to be of general interest. The Proprietors, taking advantage of the abolition of the Paper Duty, therefore resolved that the price of THE ATHENEUM should from October 5 be THREE-

INIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The

NIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The
PROPESSOR of ENGLISH LAW, JOHNA RUSSELL,
LLB., Berrieler-st-Law, will Lecture during the months of
November, December, and January, on TUESDAY EVENINGS,
at 7:35 celock, commencing on TUESDAY, the 5th of November.
Subject, The PRINCIPLES of MERCANTILE LAW.
Payment for the Course, 44. 4a. On payment of 5a. College Fee
in addition, the Course is open to Gentlemen who are not attending other Classes in the College. A Prize of 10t., offered by Laurence Counsel, Eq., will be at the disposal of the Professor for
gresentation at the end of the Session to the most proficient
Student of the Session to the most proficient
such a reward; if not the prize will be reserved for a future Session.
EDWARD S. BEESLY, A.M. Dean of the
Faculty of Arts and Law.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

CHAS. C. ATRINSON, secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—
LECTIBES on POILITICAL ECONOMY, by Prof.
WALEY, A.M., Fellow of the College.
A Course of about Twenty Lectures, commencing on TUESDAY,
November 8th.
Subjects.—Population and Distribution of Wealth, including
Rubjects.—Population and Theories of Warges, Profits and Rent
—Theory of Value—Money, Credit, including Principles of Ranking and Exchanges, Currency, Foreign Trade, Traxation, Public
Debts.

Lectures on Treadov, from 150 to 520. Fee 21. On payment of
62. College fee, in addition, the Course is open to gentlemen who
63. College fee, in addition, the Course is open to gentlemen who
63. The College fee, in addition, the Course is open to gentlemen who
63. College fee, in addition, the Course is open to gentlemen who
64. Joseph Hume Scholarship in Political Economy of 201. a year
for Students matriculated in the College, tenable for three years,
will be awarded in December, 1982.

In the "Further Examination College and the Scholarship of the Scholarship and Colleges of Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and Natural
Principles of Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and Natural
Fillowophy attons concerning the Scholarship may be had on
expected to the Scholarship may be had on
EDWARD SPENSER BEESLY, A.M. Dean of
the Family of Arts and Low.

THE ALES ATRINSON, Secretary to the Council.

POYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The OFFICE of CONSERVATOR of the MUSEUM of the COLLEGE having become VACANY by the decease of Mr. Queeker, the Council request that CANDIDATES for the Appointment will transmit a statement of their professional qualifications, addressed to the Secretary at the College, on or before the soft of November next.—Particulars relating to the Appointment will be obtained upon application at the College, Control of the College of the Col

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. The opening Meeting will be held on MONDAY, November 11, at Burlington House, Piccadilly. Chair taken at 830 r.m.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.—
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the next EXAMINATION for the DEGREE of DOCTOR of MEDICINE will COMMENCE on FRIDAY, the 7th of December.
Fellows and Members of the Reyal College of Surgeons of Engand, Edinburgh, and Dublin, of the Faculty of Physicians and
Sompany, are eligible for Examination.
Every Candidate is required to communicate by letter with
Dr. Day, the Professor of Medicine, fourteen days before the
period of Examination, and to present himself to the Secretary for
Begistration, on or before Thursday, the 26th of Docember.

By order of the Senatura Academium.

By order of the Senatus Academicus, St. Andrews, Nov. 1, 1861. JAMES M'BEAN, M.A., Sec.

The LABORATORY will be opened for the Winter Session on MONDAY, 4th of Normer. The instruction is under the immediate superintendence of the Professor of Chemistry, Mr. WANKLYN, F.R.S.E.

The LECTURES commence on TUESDAY, 5th of November.

The HOPE PRIZE, of 50% in value, is open for competition to
Laboratory Students.

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Metallurgy of Copper and Zinc, 'by Dr. PERKUY, F.K.S., will be detailurgy of Copper and Zinc, 'by Dr. PERKUY, F.K.S., will be detailured to be presented as the second of the present of th

RUIT and CHRYSANTHEMUMS, ROYAL HRUIT and CHRYSANTHEMUDAS, NOTAGE
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW AS SOUTH
KENSINGTON, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY NEXT,
November 6th and 7th. OPEN at ONE oclock. Band of First
Life Guards at Two oclock. Tickets on November 6th, as 6d; if
ONE SHILLING. At the Gardene of the principler 7th,
ONE SHILLING. At the Gardene of the principler righ,
and Musicsellers. Next Election of Fellows, November 4th.

DHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY .- The

First Meeting of the Session, will take place at KING'S COLLIES, C

DOLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION,—Professor
J. H. PEPPER, P.C.S. A. Inst. C.E., continues to accept
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HONESTY-POVERTY-TOTAL BLINDNESS.

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M. R. WILLIAM KIDD will "GOSSIP"
again on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, Nov. 5, at The
QUEEN'S COLLEGE, TEFREL PARK WEST. Begin at 8 precisely.
Subject—A Lacumands AND VERF PHACTICAL GOSSIF ADOT
B. Mrs. Morel has, in the most handsome manner possible,
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Mrs. James Krient, a highly-respectable and well-known Printer,
now totally blind and quite unable to work. Mr. Knight, who has
a large family, lives at Crouch End, Hornesy; and his precarious
existence depends entirely on the uncertain sale of a few Cheap
mon sympathy, Ms. Knob's earnest appeal to his Priends and a
generous Public is—"Come over and help us!"—Hammersmith,
Nov. 2.

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TO LADIES.—Mr. GEORGE MAC DONALD will RE-COMMENCE his CLASS for the STUDY of the ENG-LISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE, on FRIDAY, Novem-ber 15, at 11 o'clock, A.M. The Class will meet every Friday till the end of June, 1982. Terms, Five Guiness, payable in advance, Tudor Lodge, Albert-street, Regent's Park, N.W.

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MADAME SAINTON DOLBY and to be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November. All communications will be season on the 18th of November will be season on



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LITERATURE

The Life and Correspondence of Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B., from Personal Re-collections, Letters, and Official Documents. By Major-General Elers Napier. 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE pride of descent was so strongly marked in Louis-Philippe that he was frequently heard to declare, — he was infinitely prouder of being descended, through his mother, from an illegitimate child of Louis the Fourteenth, than he was of being lineally and legitimately descended, through his father, from Louis the Fourteenth's brother, the Duke of Orleans. There was a more wholesome pride, to use a homely word, in the subject of this Life and Correspondence. He was of a race of antique nobility, no member of which was ever silent. willingly, as to the merits of his house or the virtues of the individual,—and there was much to be said, and more to be becomingly thought of in both these respects. The late Admiral is seldom mentioned in biographical notices without especial record being made of his belonging to a family, the head of which had enjoyed the Barony of Merchiston for more than three centuries. This record seemed to be some compensation for the fact, that Charles John Napier was the son of a younger son of the House of Napier of Merchiston,—a house which conferred on Lady Sarah Lennox, the first love of the young George the Third, the honour of admitting her, in her first widowhood, into a matrimonial alliance with one of its sons.

With questions of "blood" the Admiral no more concerned himself than inasmuch as he took its responsibilities, and was careful that it should not suffer disparagement by his acts or bearing. However careless in the matter of ontward appearance, and with some lack of "niceness" in the choice of expressions, there is not a recumbent stone Napier who could turn uneasily on its monument and accuse the Admiral of having acted unworthy of the traditions of his house. In Hades he may look in the face of every cousin who has preceded him, that way, with courageous confidence, and he has not left one behind him who has not reason to be proud of his memory. For himself, he dated his nobility from his own early deeds; and if he had one especial ancestor of whom he was more vain than of another, it was not any Napier of Merchiston, but honest and able Napier of the Logarithms.

This Scotch lad, British Admiral, Portuguese Count, will undoubtedly rank among the first of our sea-worthies. He was flung from school to ship-board when he was but thirteen, and as soon as he found his legs, he set forward in that active and progressive career from which he never withdrew till his last summons took him to the far-off land. His course was a long one, indeed. It opened when the French Republic, one and indivisible, was turning the world upside down, in 1799; and it closed with negotiations between himself and Garibaldi, arising out of the Admiral's offer to go round to the Mediterranean and capture the Neapolitan fleet for him!

Within those two periods there was a vast amount of work accomplished, and generally accomplished well. His 'prentice hand was exercised in the North Sea and the Mediterranean. How efficient he proved when he came out of that 'prentice period will be remembered by all who have read of his doings

a way which reminds us of the chivalry and unselfishness of Cochrane.

At the taking of Martinique, he was the fore-most man to scale the walls, and, indeed, he always looked upon this sort of occupation as a luxury. As he was Posted for his conduct here, and shelved for a time, as well as Posted, he proceeded to Spain as a volunteer, and, in field and siege practice there, not only passed his time pleasantly and profitably, but laid up a mass of valuable experience which he turned to good account in the war in the East, when did not attack the walls of besieged cities riding on a donkey and conspicuous in his shirt-sleeves. We find him combining the soldier and sailor, subsequently, in the Mediterranean, and closing the first epoch of his active service in the Anglo-American war of 1813, in the course of which he and Broke manifested to the United States captains such a spirit of courteous gallantry with readiness for hard blows, as might be sought for in vain in the most exaggerated of the romances of chivalry.

The piping times of peace kept Capt. Napier unemployed, save in a few political demonstrations, till the struggle for sovereignty in Portugal called him to active service. From 1829 to 1833, he was, in one way or other, benefiting that little, ungrateful kingdom, capping all his deeds by capturing the Miguelite fleet, for which were conferred on him a title of Viscount, which his own government declined to allow

him to use, and a pension which the Pedroite government declined to regularly pay. Six years later, he served second to Admiral Stopford, who allowed him to be first in the Mediterranean. This command was signalized by his great successes on the coast of Syria, whence his mission was to eject the Egyptians and re-establish the authority of the Turks. How he stormed Sidon, overcame the ferocious Ibrahim Pacha, at Beyrout, and captured St. Jean d'Acre, is a series of tales of war, with comic as well as serious aspects, fresh in all men's memories. The series comes to a very satisfactory end by his dictation of terms to Mehemet Ali, when Napier held supreme command of the Mediterranean Squadron.

Subsequently, he held command of the Channel Fleet, and sorely tried the tempers of Ministers, even when they were of his own political colour, by his strongly-expressed sen-timents in Parliament, and his letters out of it, in connexion with reforms in the Navy, the treatment and registration of seamen, and the importance of maintaining a Channel Fleet of sufficient strength to secure the honour and safety of the nation. Since Admiral Vernon's days, there had not been so fiercely outspoken Bedford, "Black Charley" was to any Premier of his day. All this, however, rendered him the more popular even with those who were laff sheeked at the All in 1991. half shocked at the Admiral's eccentricities and half disgusted by the vanity of which he was himself unconscious. When the war with Russia broke out, the popular voice may be said to have wafted him to the Baltic, with all his mingled boastings and monitions, and to have given him scant welcome when he returned, with a single leaf or two of laurels, his ships uninjured, and a mountain of accusa-tions against the Ministers who had commissioned him to perform impossibilities, and who had withheld all aid and assistance to further him in the accomplishment of that rather difficult task.

aboard, and turning thence to forget his disappointments in renewed exercise in the vocations indicated above. His last essay, as we have said, was to become the Admiral of Garibaldi; but this essay proved unsuccessful, and Sir Charles, dying soon after, has found a worthy biographer and chronicler in the person of his step-son, who thus describes one of the early traits in the character of his hero:—

"His arrival in London was marked by a ch racteristic circumstance, as related by one of the family. On landing at the Tower Stairs, the officious porters began to lay violent hands on his luggage. He had been duly cautioned against London sharpers, and thinking they were going to rob him of his sea-chest, he seated himself across it, and drew his dirk to defend his property-thus showing that the same resolute spirit animated the midshipman of thirteen as did afterwards the admiral of seventy. I have heard another anecdote connected with this his first visit to London. He was staying at the house of a relative (the father of Mr. Mark Napier, the historian, and author of of Mr. Mark Napier, the historian, and author of 'The Life of Montrose'), who, after showing the youngster all the London sights, took him to see the lions at the Tower; amongst them was one which the keeper represented as being so very tame 'that,' said he, 'you might put your hand into his mouth.' Taking him at his word, the young middy, to the horror of the spectators, thrust his hand into the animal's jaws, which, no don't make the resumb hystoriae as the lock, no doubt, was taken as much by surprise as the lookerson. It was a daring feat; but, providentially, he did not suffer for his temerity. This story recalls to mind the attack made by Nelson, when a midshipman, on a Polar bear; and the soldier Charles Napier's bold encounter with an eagle, in his boy-hood, as related by Sir William Napier in the his-tory of his gallant brother's life. It is certainly a remarkable coincidence, and one worthy of notice, that these distinguished men should, in their youth, that these distinguished men should, in their youth, have thus singularly evinced that fearlessness and unflinching daring which, in after years, so eminently characterized their respective careers. These three parallel cases would seem to have been omens of future greatness, which, as Sir William Napier remarks, 'would have been strongly dwelt upon by the old chronicler of the heroes of ancient Greece and Rome.' In May, he joined the Renown, a new ship of 74 guns, commanded by Capt. Byles, and bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren. On going on board, and being left alone in the gloomy region of the cockpit, a fit of despondency—such as often board, and being left alone in the gloomy region of the cockpit, a fit of despondency—such as often attends the young midshipman's first entrance on a nautical existence—overcame young Charley, and, seating himself on his chest, he burst into a passionate flood of tears. He was, not, however, of a desponding disposition, and soon got the better of his weakness—made himself quite happy and at home; and is described by the present Admiral Six a unsust Clifford—then also for a chort Admiral Sir Augustus Clifford-then also for a short time a midshipman on board the same ship—as a 'fine, sturdy, energetic boy, small for his age, but active, and very strong."

The following is a sketch of a brilliant affair, by which he inaugurated his Post rank, gained in 1809. It is told by himself, with a comment by the biographer:

"'Shortly after this, I was made Post into the Jason by Sir Alexander Cochrane, but did not immediately join, and in the month of March was immediately join, and in the month of March was employed to watch the motions of a French Squadron and two frigates at anchor in the Saintes. On the 14th of April a body of troops was landed, and in the night they put to sea. I immediately bore up in chase, making signals to the rest of the squadron, which was also done by the Hazard and Hawke. The Neptune, bearing the admiral's flag, and the Pompée, brought up a strong breeze, and exchanged a few shot, but they soon dropped astern. The Recruit sailed well, and I took up way position on the quarter of the D'Haupoult. came out of that 'prentice period will be remembered by all who have read of his doings and his daring in the brig which he commanded in 1808, the Recruit, and which he handled in

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brig was three or four miles astern of the Recruit. Pompée five or six, the Neptune seven or eight. I then commenced firing on the sternmost, yawing under her stern and on her quarter, ex-posed to the stern guns of three sail of the line, and the occasional broadsides of the other two, who had the superiority of sailing; but being afraid of having their spars knocked away, they seldom rounded to, and they fired in such a hurry that we were only hulled three times. I once crossed their sterns, fired three or four broadsides, and again took up my position on the D'Haupoult's quarter, where they allowed me to remain the whole day, contenting themselves with yawing and firing their stern guns, but without much effect, being always in a hurry to resume their course. Towards even-ing the Pompée had gained on the D'Haupoult, and the French commodore, seeing the impossi bility of saving her without risking an action, hauled to the southward as the Pompée was coming. I parted on chase of the other ships, in hopes of drawing the Latona and Castor, now in sight, for action, after me, but they did not see my signals and followed the Pompée. In the night I lost the enemy, from their superiority of sailing; two days after, I joined the Pompée and Castor at the close of the action with the D'Haupoult, who was captured, and I was removed into her on the spot by Sir Alexander Cochrane, in consequence of my conduct, as set forth in his and Capt. Fahies's letter.' In the part which the Recruit played in the capture of the D'Haupoult, it is difficult which most to admire—the gallantry or seamanship of her youthful commander. Several times during the chase, when Sir Alexander Cochrane thought the little vessel in most imminent danger, did he order the signal to be made for her recall; but before the flags for that purpose could be bent on, the Recruit had, by a skilful manceuvre, placed herself in a less perilous position, when the order was cancelled again and again. It is related that the French Admiral, on delivering up his sword, asked the name of the little vessel that had annoyed and retarded his movements so much; on being told she was called the Conscript, or Recruit, he said, with a sad smile, and a shake of the head, Recruit!—no, that no conscript, that one very old soldier!"

There are many sides to the character of "Black Charley," and here is one of its gro-tesque phases. The time is 1813, when Toulon tesque phases. The time is 1813, when Toulon was being blockaded. Napier was in command of the Euryalus, in which he took a run to Port Mahon, Minorca, where he found the 74-gun ship Rivoli, whose then Captain is now Admiral Sir Graham Hamond:-

"An officer who was then on board the Rivoli, lately recounted to me a most amusing anecdote lately recounted to me a most amusing anecdote about 'Charley Napier,' when he commanded the Euryalus, whilst they were together at Port Mahon. 'One fine day,' said the officer in question, 'I landed and went up to the usual shop for supplying us with groceries. At the door I found Captain Napier, to my great surprise, seated on a donkey, dressed in a yellow coat, yellow waistcoat, and yellow trousers, laced cocked hat, and a pair of naval epaulettes. I had no further conversation with him bayend common recognition and shaking with him beyond common recognition and shaking hands, but I was afterwards informed that he had laid a wager with some one, that he would so ride about Mahon streets, and that he had begun at six o'clock that morning-it was about noon when I saw him, and I understood that he continued on till the evening, and won his bet. I have only stated what I actually saw with my own eyes.'
This was the first time I had ever heard so detailed an account of the origin of the 'yellow dress, which is still preserved as a sort of family relic I can remember it well to the present day: the lining was rich cherry-coloured satin, and large buttons covered with the same, so as to make it look as conspicuous and ridiculous as possible. I have heard Captain Napier relate with much humour the circumstance of his winning this extra-ordinary dress from a tailor at Port Mahon, who agreed to give it to him for nothing, on condition that he would wear it the whole day in the streets. The bargain was struck-Captain Napier doffed

his uniform, donned the 'yellow,' and began to perambulate the streets. Mr. Snip meanwhile collected all the urchins of the place to follow and hoot at the man in the 'quarantine' dress. The latter was not, however, thus to be put down by the clamour of the mob—he told them to laugh at the clamour of the mob—he told them to laugh at the tailor, and not at him, as he was to have the dress for nothing, provided he wore it. The tables were immediately turned upon the poor tailor, who retired quite disconcerted, and 'Mad Charley' carried off in triumph the yellow dress."

The Captain could scale walls with ease and intrepidity; but when he came to scale Helicon. he could no more ascend with dignity, or ride Pegasus, than Cicero himself, which might have consoled Napier had he only thought of it:—

"In a subsequent tour [writes the biographer] I made through Switzerland, I happened to visit this Island of St. Pierre. Although upwards of a quarter of a century had elapsed, on looking over the 'Livre des Étrangers,' at the little hotel, my attention was rivetted by Captain Napier's wellknown hand-writing, in which was traced the following ludicrous attempt at rhyme-the only poetic effusion I ever knew him to be guilty of:-The English, who travel more than all other nations

together,
Collect in great towns to enjoy the delights of the weather;
But here in this isle, formed for love and delight,
Few seem to have soul to pass even the night.

They come but their names to inscribe in the room of Rousseau, Take a short walk, and away from the island they go; Returning to England they talk of the beauties they've

And drive other fools to follow the course they have been. The writer of this, known by the name of 'Mad Charlie

Passed a whole week in the island of St. Pierre; Its charms and its beauties ne'er his senses could pall, He'd sooner live here than at Merchiston Hall."

This has small savour of the Hippocrene about it; and yet the writer had, at least, simplicity enough about him to have qualified him to prove a poet. Take the following in-

"Amongst our acquaintance was a Mr. —, a man with more talent than money, and perhaps less principle than either. This person was a shrewd and needy adventurer, who in a great measure depended on the ready exercise of his wit to keep of the less suspicious of his more wealthy friends; and in Capt. Napier he found one who perfectly answered the object he had in view. At the instigation of Mr. —, he engaged in various speculations, the most ruinous of which eventually proved to be that of establishing iron steamboats on the Seine. The gigantic powers of that motive agent had already dawned upon his mind; he vaguely began to form a conception of the vast purposes to which it might be applied; and well would it have been for him had he allowed others first to try those experiments which finally cost him nearly all he experiments which finally cost him nearly an ne-possessed! Be that as it may, he gave himself up—thoughts, time, and capital—with all that ardour which characterized his energetic nature, to the chiect by which he was fully engrossed. Wooden steamers were found not to answer for the navigation of the Seine, owing-as far as I can remember-to their large draught of water, and they were superseded by the recently invented iron vessels, in one of which Capt. Napier, starting from the Thames, adventurously crossed the Channel and proceeded up the Seine to Paris; it being, I believe, the first vessel of the kind that ever ventured out to sea. This fragile craft was flat-bottomed, drew very few inches of water, and was only calculated for inland navigation; her paddles, too, were so fixed at the stern that they were liable to be washed away by every sea, in the trough of which she must then inevitably have been swamped. No little credit, therefore, is due to the intrepidity of the man who ventured in such a boat, at an inclement season of the year. On his a noas, at an inclement season of the year. On its arrival at Paris, thousands flocked to see this eighth wonder of the world in the 'bateau h vapeur en fer,' though it puzzled many of the spectators to toconceive how such a material could possibly be made to float; and a greater number were more in the material parting interpolation and the fer, though it puzzled many of the spectators to together than the float was along made to float; and a greater number were more interpolation.

incredulous, and declared it was an imposture, as such a thing could never be

In this venture, Napier lost a fortune, but not his spirits. He took most things easily, and was particular in nothing except the performance of his duty and in impressing the public with the fitness of their being aware of that spécialité of his. That he was not particular in dress, let the subjoined extract tell:

"It is well known that he was never very parti-cular in matters of dress; and it is recounted that on one occasion having called on an elector for his vote, the worthy tradesman happening to be from home, he then addressed himself to his wife, who expressed her incredulity that such a 'shabbily-dressed fellow' could be Capt. Napier, of the Royal Navy, of whom she had heard so much. In vain did the anxious candidate for her husband's vote endeavour to convince her of his identity; he had neither card nor proof of any kind to show, and the lady would not take him at his word, or promise so doubtful-looking an individual her powerful support.
At last a bright idea suggested itself, of proving that he was 'himself.' He unbuttoned his waistcoat, and displayed on the front of his shirt 'Charles Napier,' written at full length. The lady was convinced, and gave him the promise of a 'plumper.'"

We are again with him affoat on the 5th of July, 1833, when in command of the Pedroite fleet. On that day was seen an instance new to naval annals-"a line-of-battle ship boarded and captured by a small frigate in a quarter of and capoured by a small frigure in a quarter of an hour." Both vessels were named the Rainha. The details are long; and we can only find room for the following remarks by the biographer on the bearing of his young brother in this his first fight:—

"Commodore Wilkinson and young Napier—as stated—leading the boarders, were the first on the At this moment the two ships enemy's deck. enemy's deck. At this moment the two singles yawed apart, thus leaving them for a few minutes alone and unsupported. During this time they were surrounded by their enemies, but defended themselves gallantly, slashing away right and left, until Napier was unfortunately disarmed by his sword becoming fixed between the ramrod and muzzle of a musket, and being thus wrenched from his hand. Young, vigorous and endowed with extraordinary activity, he sprang, unarmed as he was, on the foremost assailant, seized him with the left hand by the throat, and with the other planting a well-directed blow in his face, sent him headforemost over one of the guns-but was also dragged down in the fall. During this death-struggle, blows were mercilessly showered on him from behind: he received two very severe sabre cuts on the head, a violent contusion from the butt-end of a musket, by which he was stunned; and while thus helpless and prostrate, many other bayonet thrusts and sabre cuts were inflicted on various parts of his body, amounting in all to fifteen in number, though some, it is true, were very slight; but the injuries his head received on this occasion rendered him partially deaf for the remainder of his life. This occupied a much shorter time than it has taken to relate, and my brother was happily rescued from certain death by the arrival of the Admiral at the head of the rest of the boarders; the two vessels having again come into close contact. I have still in my possession the sword used by my gallant brother in this action. It is a heavy cavalry sabre, which had been the gift of an esteemed friend, and he is said to have slain with it five of his assailants. I have also the clothes that he wore on this occasion; they are pierced and cut in every direction, and perforated in one place by a musket-ball."

The Admiral so distinguished himself in this naval campaign that the people for whom he thus exposed himself and followers entertained some idea of paying him-not much-a compli-

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do you mean? Go,' added he — 'go and see what it is.' By the time I got on deck about a dozen fellows with bare heads, dressed in ample dozen fellows with bare heads, dressed in ample black gowns, and each provided with a long taper-ing rod, were, as the soldiers say, 'falling in.' Two of the party carried a sort of large silver salver, on which was deposited something covered by a rich silk canopy. They desired to see the Admiral, and were accordingly shown into the cabin, where the latter was sitting at table. After marching round in procession, they halted behind him, and read a long address in Portuguese, of which few of us understood a single word. The which few of us understood a single word. The canopy was now withdrawn, and the whole mystery disclosed: it contained a large and handsome wreath or crown of evergreens, which two of the black-robed gentlemen having raised, advanced towards the Admiral, with the evident intention of placing it on his head. He had up to this time behaved most admirably, and with all the dignity and gravity becoming his position and that of the and gravity becoming his position, and that of the personage who had read him the long address; but when they proceeded to crown him with laurels, he could stand it no longer—he was like a bull shaking his head when an attempt is made to throw a rope over his horns. They next tried to talk him over—but it was all in vain. It has been truly said that there is but one step between the sublime and the ridiculous, and the whole scene had now assumed one of merriment. All semblance of gravity had disappeared on our part—the deputation, cor-poration, municipal authorities, or whatever the dozen 'gentlemen in black' might have been, looked at first much disconcerted, but joined even-tually in the general laugh. The Admiral told them we were all heroes—to put the crown on the table, and that we would each have our share. This was done: he pulled out a sprig, which he placed in the buttonhole of his coat; we all followed placed in the buttonhole of his coat; we all followed his example—and the beautiful wreath soon became a complete wreck. The 'gentlemen in black'— apparently not half pleased with the result of their mission—then marched off, carrying with them the silken canopy and the salver—the Admiral jocosely observing, as they disappeared, that 'twould have been all very well if they'd only left us the piece of plate as well as the green leaves!'

As a disciplinarian, criticism might, perhaps, take the form celebrated in the case of Sir Roger's portrait, which was thought so closely to resemble the "Saracen's Head," when there was "much to be said on both sides." For example:

"His idea as to the severity and frequency of flogging was, that, by being often beheld, it lost a great portion of its efficacy in point of warning and example; and that human nature is so constituted that custom makes us familiar with and indifferent to the sight of the most appalling punishments; and that when seamen are thus familiarized to such spectacles, they in some measure lose their terror, more particularly as-when the infliction is endured with fortitude-it is sure to elicit the approbation of their shipmates, who never fail to applaud the sufferer who has borne his punishment like a 'man.' Capt. Napier, on board the Powerful, endeavoured as much as possible to substitute other punishments for that of the lash; and justly thought that when ridicule, instead of sympathy was excited by punishment, it was likely to be attended with much more beneficial effects. mode which I remember he adopted to effect this was, to have the neck of the culprit encased in as large wooden collar—such as is often placed on pigs, to prevent them from breaking through a fence—and make them in this ridiculous guise parade the quarter-deck for a certain number of hours, exposed to the jeers of his companions, who usually 'roasted' him well, when he was released from his uncomfortable and unseemly cravat. From the state of the political horizon at the time, Capt. Napier fully calculated on the probability of an approaching European war. He took every means to prepare for the event, by getting his ship into the highest state of discipline and fighting order, and took the greatest pains in the exercise of her guns, adopting, with his usual eccentricity, a system of his own to exemplify what might

happen in action, as men at the different guns were either disabled or killed. For this purpose when at general quarters, each lieutenant was provided with a basket of wads, which he occasionally threw indiscriminately at the men who were working the guns; and every man, on being struck by a wad, was supposed to be killed or wounded, and thus incapacitated from returning to his post. Such was Capt. Napier's plan for practising the men to take up quickly the places of their ship-mates supposed to be killed or wounded, thus making the exercise appear like a real action; and he would often himself take a basket of wads, and kill or wound all those stationed at two or three guns, in order to see how quickly they could be re-manned from those adjacent to them.

From these extracts our readers will be enabled to gather a correct idea, we hope, of the biography compiled by the Major-General. It abounds in traits of character, of which we have afforded some sample, and there are details of love, marriage, and home-life which contrast very pleasantly with the more exciting scenes. The work is very honestly put together; without pretence, it accomplishes much; not adding considerably to the stock of our knowledge of the events of the Admiral's life, but bringing all the incidents together, so as to create a continuous story of great interest, with much that is amusing for the general, and more that is instructive to the professional, reader.

Damascus and the Lebanon—[Damas et le Liban, Extraits du Journal d'un Voyage en Syrie au Printemps de 1860]. (Jeffs.)

But a few weeks have elapsed since the Duc de Nemours congratulated himself that his nephews, the Comte de Paris and the Duc de Chartres, had been aroused by "the smell of powder" from beyond the Atlantic, to follow the instincts of their race and nation, by joining in the gigantic family quarrel which is raging among "brothers" in the States. Such a course, it was thought, if it had successful issues, might prove to their advantage on the recurrence of another revolutionary trouble in France.

Meanwhile, the elder of the two princes has left behind him, in Europe, a sample of his authorship, and a record of his experiences, "destined for a few persons only." This comes to us in the form of a volume of extracts from a journal of Eastern travel; and, like the Essavist who declared that he was never even dull without some design in it, this work has a meaning, and what the French call an "intention," in a political sense.

We must premise that it is printed for private circulation only; and though the British Museum possesses a copy, the name of the work, or that of His Royal Highness as the author, is not yet to be found in the Catalogue. How long this privacy will be maintained, it is diffi-cult to say. Some hundreds—at least two hundred copies-have been exported to France, and freely admitted by the authorities, who were ignorant, at the time, of the name of the author. A second venture may not experience the same good fortune.

And yet, to all appearance, the volume is as harmless as the most despotic and fearful of governments could desire. The writer sets out by saying that "chance alone took him to the (le hasard seul l'y avait amené,)-but His Royal Highness immediately explains what sort of chance it was, by adding that he went thither on purpose, as the only means available to him whereby he might gain some knowledge of his country, to which he is entirely devoted. "Thanks to his name and the memories of his sympathy they bear for France, and the confi-

dence which they place in her support."

Thus the book becomes, in fact, a "Transaction," and France is thereby informed how the grandson of Louis-Philippe is looking after French interests, and showing himself worthy of future consideration in any troubled time to come. The arrangement of the work is simple and its style effective. Under the heading "Damascus," the royal author shows up Turkey as effete, treacherous, powerless and cruel. Under the title of "Lebanon," he sets down his convictions that the Christian population is in every way superior to all co-existing races, and that these Christian communities will be annihilated if Europe do not interfere for their preservation. Subsequently, a European mediation assumes a useless aspect in the writer's eyes, and he thinks it would be very well if France took the principal-that is, of course, the sole-lead in the matter, and settled the vexed question by sending the "breath of her civilization" over the land, and, though as much is not expressed in so many words, making a French province of the mountains and the plains, and thus add another item to the glittering mass of Gallic glory.

This recommendation or suggestion is tantamount to a censure on the late Imperial policy which shrank from the task. The princely writer, or his Mentor for him, tacitly but significantly estimates that French interests in the East would not thus have been neglected had a son of Orleans been at the head of the humanizing bayonets of France. This is the sum of the whole book; and it will not fail to keep the writer's name on men's lips, and rescue it from the oblivion or indifference which is so perilous and unpleasant to pretenders.

The author sketches character well, describes scenery naturally and intelligibly, and rides a simile with the safety and assurance of a perfect horseman in that difficult branch of the art. He is skilful, too, in condensation, and in a few words conveys as much meaning as some writers could with difficulty express in as many pages. At his touch the desert burns, the city glows in the bright sunshine, the figures live and remain on the memory, and the reader feels the influences of the scene described, as if he were one of the travelling party. In short, nothing could well be more agreeable were it not for the conviction that, skilful and simple as it all seems, it is not a record made to keep up pleasant reminiscences, but a sort of professional testimonial, got up to indicate the author's fitness for future business when France may require him. And this is often done with some craft, as may be seen where the writer, exposing the venality and corruption of the Turkish administration, contrives to smartly hit those French Imperial ministers who have, to the amusing wonder of the people, realized such a vast amount of wealth as well as honour.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Comte de Paris has small respect for the four powers who, some twenty years ago, so thoroughly deceived M. Guizot, and, acting in spite of France, drove the Egyptians from Syria, and restored that province to Turkey. Since then the condition of Syria has been so aggra-vated that nothing can save the Christian tribes from the fury of the infidels, but a European intervention. The Prince closes his book with an expression of this conviction; but he can see nothing but failure in an intervention of several European powers combined, and the suggestion of the "breath" of France being alone employed in the work is clearly traceable in the final passage, in which the illustrious author says, that to attain the end family," the illustrious journalist was so cordially received by the Christian population, as to enable him to "learn all the extent of the in view "efficacious and even energetic means"

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must be employed, if necessary, and that Europe must not allow herself to be seduced by projects too ingenious to be practicable, nor to be stopped by respect for an authority which no longer exists but as a veil for assassination." In this form does the heir of Louis-Philippe recommend himself to the friendly consideration of his countrymen. The latter will probably think favourably of his views, as they undoubtedly ought of his merits as an author.

Forest Creatures. By Charles Boner. (Longman & Co.)

Although we prefer Mr. Boner's previous volume, 'Chamois Hunting in the Mountains of Bavaria and the Tyrol,' to the present, as being fuller of adventure and marked by more stirring interest, yet all sportsmen who desire or are addicted to the exciting sports to which Mr. Boner is devoted will find these pages sufficiently pleasing and practically serviceable to them. The Wild Boar, the Roe, the Stag, the Fallow Deer, the Capercaile or Cock of the Wood, the Black Cock, and the Golden Eagle, all successively come before the reader and receive due disquisitions. How the Golden Eagle can be properly included as a forest creature is not perfectly apparent, seeing that he haunts quite other regions, as we shall presently note.

To the Stag Mr. Boner devotes his principal attention, and on all the natural knowledge which the pursuers of that noble animal acquire in the course of years of observation, the author is a clever discourser. The antlers, with their growth and points, and the slot which the stag leaves as its impression wherever it walks or runs, are very congenial to Mr. Boner's taste and talents. Whoever desires to be skilful in detecting the age and character of this beast, from the slots or footprints which he leaves as indications, will find help in these pages and in the four or five drawings on stone of what the stag has printed on the earth.

The chapter on the Golden Eagle, though brief as to the author's doings, is the most generally interesting in the volume, partly from the attraction of the subject itself, and partly because the author seems to take a flight upward with the royal bird, and to describe it in a style which reminds us of the graphic and graceful hyperbole of Christopher North when "Not one soaring in the same company. fowler in fifty thousand," says old Christopher, "has in all his days shot an eagle," and, we may add, not one man in fifty thousand, perhaps, has ever seen one in free flight especially a golden eagle. Not gregarious, but moodily solitary, are these majestic birds. Like kings and queens, they keep apart from the common company of their fellows, and not being birds of a feather, they do not flock together. The eagle's haunt is not in the neighbourhood of the haunts of men. He chooses a rock for his eyrie, a rock suspended far above our pathways, and where no human eye beholds him. Scarcely ever, indeed, does a human eye behold him, unless while he is diminishing in aerial distance thousands of feet above us, and speeding his resistless way on mighty pinions, until he finally evades sight altogether, and enters clouds of dimness, or the sunlight that dazzles us, but not him. He has been seen higher still than the highest mountains of the Bernese Oberland,—for what are twelve or thirteen thousand feet to him, whose strong pinions sweep through the air like a rushing wind? Heights that human climbers can only, with extreme toil and daring, attain in hours this bird surmounts in minutes. He is on the summit while man looks towards it,

—and, in another minute, may be soaring immeasurably higher on his way to cloudiest heights, or to the far sea of deep blue ether, or the flaming neighbourhood of the sun!

The ease of his ascents is no less remarkable than their altitude. When it so pleases him, he can remain long and easily suspended as if without a single beat of his extended wings; or he can suddenly sail forward in a perfectly horizontal direction for more than a mile of distance, without apparently the slightest turn of his feathers,—his outspread wings then seeming rather like sails than wings, and he himself being upheld or borne along by the mere exercise of volition. How forceful the impetus he can then give himself! how strong yet how light the mechanism of his mighty frame! how majestic his calm and quiet buoyancy-how sudden his horizontal sail, instantaneously succeeding his upward flight! how sudden, too, his reversal and the immediate fall of the bird, like that of a rock, through the cloven air, when from a great height he voluntarily seeks the earth! Equally remarkable is the power he is declared to possess of instantaneously arresting himself while dropping through the air at a certain spot, with folded wings, even when descending from a height of 3,000 or 4,000 feet :-

"When circling so high up that he shows but as a dot, he will suddenly close both wings, and, falling like an aërolite, pass through the intervening space in a few seconds of time. With a burst his broad pinions are again unfolded; his downward progress: a arrested, and he sweeps away horizontally, smoothly, and without effort. He has been seen to do this when carrying a sheep of twenty-six pounds' weight in his talons; and from so giddy a height that both the eagle and his booty were not larger than a sparrow. It was directly over a wall of rock in which the eyrie was built; and while the speck in the clouds was being examined, and doubts entertained as to the possibility of its being the eagle, down he came headlong, every instant increasing in size, when, in passing the precipice, out flow his mighty wings; the sheep was flung into the nest, and on the magnificent creature moved, calmly and unflurried, as a bark sails gently down the stream of a river."

No less powerful than the eagle's wing for flight is his organ for vision. What an eye is his, even as you gaze at it in the poor captive in his barred prison, where he sullenly disdains the hurrying, vulgar, staring crowd! He could outstare them all, if he were so disposed. He could look as steadily at them as at the sun, and a small ellipse of flame seems to be playing even now in the centre of that eye, -a flame that could at any moment flash out in burning anger, as it now glimmers dully in sleepy scorn. Set the bird free, and you shall for one moment see that eye kindle into its full lustre. Were it imbedded in yonder cloud, still it could penetrate far downward and upward, and discern what is doing or flying very far off. A mere fledgling eagle can descry its parent when high and far away, and will utter cries of welcome upon recognizing its provider as a mere speck wheeling like a circling point above. What, then, will not the parent recognize with his fierce, keen and piercing eye? Furnished with such powerful organs both of vision and motion, it might be thought that this bird would never want a meal, and that no prey could escape him. But his instincts and his fear of foes often prevent his descent and depredations, and so preserve the weak from his rapacity; for, dreading as he does the common populated earth, he will only carry off such objects as he can seize while sweeping by them. His familiar home is the air, his strange place the ground, and he will not descend to any spot below, unless he can quit it speedily by describing a curve as bold and sudden as that which brought him there.

An open field is essential to his warfare, and his prey must be fully or frequently exposed before he will attempt to secure it. He is royal even in his rapacity, and though his deeds are evil, he loves light rather than darkness. He comes down and returns like the whirlwind, ever rushing, never resting in his predatory visits. It is for other birds to settle and sing, it is for him to sweep and soar.

A certain Count Arco seems to be a notable eagle slayer and seeker, and a long yet attractive story of the ways in which the Count manages to shoot the male and female eagle, and to capture their eaglet in his nest, forms that portion of the book which will interest those who are not sportsmen. Having determined to shoot the parents first, and then to capture the coveted eaglet, the Count, albeit that he has thirteen of his own offspring in his own nest, set out with determination and daring in his heart to an estate thirty miles from the Lake of Constance. A regular siege was laid to the "Wand," or wall of rock, 400 or 500 feet high, in a recess of which the eyric was built, and half way up which was a narrow chamois-path, sufficient for a good climber's progress. was the nearest approach to the still-distant eyrie, and here the sportsman built a little bower of fir and pine branches. He occupied this post of observation at half-past one on a morning when there was such a hoar frost that he was almost frozen. At four the parent eagle returns homeward, and perching on a dead tree about 200 yards off, never ceases gazing at the Count for two full hours. Two painful hours are passed, the Count half frozen, and the eagle wanting to get home; but at last the bird spreads his large pinions, and with a single rush shoots away from the rock and disappears over the ridge. Five long hours pass away, and the Count is still at his post. Now a rush of wings announces the returning eagle, who, thinking to elude his enemy and feed his offspring, as yesterday, rushes past the eyric flinging in the food, and then makes two quick strokes with his pinions, in hope of dropping, with folded wings, below. But the Count is prepared for him to-day, and aiming doubtfully without seeing him yet at the spot where he was expected, at last pulls the trigger at the moment when the bird rushes past the eyrie. This quick movement is successful, and down tumbles the great bird who for eight days had succeeded in feeding his young one and escaping his fee, though in ambush just below him.

And now how to get at the orphan eaglet is the next question. Ten woodcutters are set to work, and fourteen woodcutters carry up ladders and necessary tools to the half-way bower; the ascent of these ladders is thus described:—

"The first was so slender that it rocked with my weight very considerably, and I was glad when it was passed. When I now came to the perpendicular one, and saw the position of that at top, I cannot deny that as I mounted, I commended my soul to my Maker; but I was calm, and as full of confidence in the strength of my arms, and in my bodily activity, as though there was not the least danger present. The perpendicular ladder was now ascended. Although I had not the least giddiness whatever, I could not but see, on looking upwards, and then down below, that to mount the third ladder was a feat for a rope-dancer, rather than for any one else; and, thinking of my wife and thirteen children, I turned it over in my mind whether it would not be better to go back. Meanwhile, it occurred to me that as long as the upper part of the ladder did not project more outwards, it would, by reason of its own perpendicular weight, bear the weight of my body hanging backwards without toppling over. Trusting therefore to this, I now began to mount, my body hanging down

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and away from the ladder, which, as the men afterwards told me, was a really fearful sight. I now was at that part of the ladder where it leaned against the straggling branches of the eyrie, and had ten or twelve rounds still above me. vered that the eyrie instead of being two feet high, as we had supposed when viewing it from below, was composed of branches which had been accumulated by the eagles for years, and was nearly eight feet in height. The ladder was, therefore, about eight feet too short, in order to enable a person to step off it into the nest. What was to be done? To turn back was not at all to my taste, and the hope to be able at least to look into the eyrie carried the day. With all heed I mounted higher; putting my hands through the ladder and holding on by the branches of the eyrie, and with my feet pressing the ladder as closely as possible against it.

I had now the last round of the ladder in my hand, but there was still five feet to the nest; so that I was obliged to trust all my weight to the branches that composed it. Boring my hands and arms as far as I could into the immense fabric of boughs and branches, I carefully tested them all till I found one that I could neither snap in two nor drag out: grasping this firmly, I thus got on the topmost round of the ladder—110 feet high; but even now I could only lean my chin firmly against a stick on the outermost edge of the nest, while with both arms I held fast on its surface."

The bold Count contrives to peep into the nest, and discovers that the young bird was sitting in the very hindermost corner, four feet away from The nest itself was a veritable carrion pit, and disgusting when its odours came between the wind and the Count's nobility. He picks a long stick out of the nest and pokes the eaglet until the latter becomes furious and seizes the stick with his talons. Now his tor-mentor draws the stick towards himself, and with his right hand seizes the bird's back. The capture was not accomplished without great difficulty, and then, says the Count,-

"Victory having been achieved, I began to think of effecting an orderly retreat. So, with my right hand, I let my prisoner hang suspended behind me, in order that he might not incommode me while descending, and then tried to find the holes in the eyrie which I had bored with my hands when climbing up. This was a difficult and fatiguing affair, and lasted terribly long; because, my head being pressed close up against the side of the nest, I could see nothing, and was only able to feel my way with my hands and feet. The top of the uppermost ladder inclined backwards more and more as I descended, making full two feet at each round. It was only after a long search, and after snapping many a dry branch, that I succeeded in finding again the holes in the nest; but I found thom of the transfer of the standard laws. them at last, and thus, by care, perseverance, courage, and presence of mind, I descended the three ladders and came back again to my men; and, except that my hands were much torn by the brambles, quite unhurt. Those below believed that they had seen the accomplishment of an impossibility: and they confessed that several times they onity: and they confessed that several times they were unable to look up, so giddy had the sight made them. As long as I was standing on the ladder I was in a complete perspiration; so that literally the moisture ran down into my shoes; and, on coming below, I for a long time was unable to hold my hand and arm quiet, so much did attached. did they tremble from the great exertion. But now all was happily over, and the whole troop—those above as well as those below—burst forth into a loud and long 'Hurrah!' making the surrounding mountains re-echo with their shout. When the others came down and saw the ladders standing, they would not believe what they saw, and looked on the affair as miraculous. It was not a miracle; but I think myself that no eagle had ever been taken from an eyrie in like manner.

The tale is exciting enough in one way, and instructive enough in another, but it is not for us to point the moral. As for the eagle, he is hearty and comfortable enough at the Königs-See, placed opposite tempt. Moreri discovers that Burley "n'avoit Dr. Craik, on the other hand, may be too much

a comrade taken from a nest on the Untersberg, by the Count, who let himself down to the spot by a rope. "Whoever would like to see them can do so and welcome." Another similar story is told of the same eagle-seeker, but its interest is inferior to the one already told. If to shoot old eagles and capture young ones be the noblest end of man's being and the highest use of his faculties, then Count Arco is noble by nature as well as by rank; and if to pursue and slay wild boars, roe, red deer, fallow-deer, and game birds be the reader's dearest wish and highest purpose, he will find Mr. Boner's book pleasant reading, while his concluding hints to sportsmen will be of service in the forest. They are those of a practised beast and bird pursuer.

A Compendious History of English Literature and of the English Language, from the Norman Conquest. With numerous Specimens. By

G. L. Craik, LL.D. (Griffin, Bohn & Co.)
The size of a book lies neither in bulk, weight, nor number of pages: but in the comparison of these with its subject. This little work, of not quite twelve hundred pages in all, treats a subject which is growing so fast, large as it is, that if only one in a hundred aspirants gains a first instalment of immortality, it must be doubled in less than fifty years. Dr. Craik has already written on this subject, in a smaller work known to many of our readers. This augmented effort will be, we doubt not, received with decided approbation by those who are entitled to judge, and studied with much profit by those who want to learn.

Encyclopædic works are, for different reasons, both early and late literary enterprises: at first because there were so few copies; at last because there are so many books. It was once a labour of love for the zealous friend of some local class of pupils, or even of some one pupil, to bring together the fruits of wide reading into a condensed manual: for the original works were scarce and scattered. The same thing is now done because the originals, no longer scarce nor scattered, require such a space as that under the dome of the Museum to bring them all together.

The first Englishman about whom we sought information at Dr. Craik's hands was his own founder: and we were rather disappointed at not discovering his name in the index. The earliest literary encyclopædist was an Englishman, Walter Burley by name: he died in 1337, aged sixty-two, and is said to have been tutor to Edward the Third. Brucker acknowledges the character we claim for him; and his book 'De Vitâ et Moribus Philosophorum' lived to be printed many times: there were at least twelve editions in the fifteenth century—the first as early as 1473—and nobody knows how many after. This work is indeed literary history, for we find among the philosophers Homer, Ovid, Horace, Demosthenes, &c. The book is not very big: one stamp would carry the edition which lies on our table, if half of one of the boards were torn off. For ourselves, we find that nothing sends us to a recent book with a keener appetite than a previous examination of the same kind of book as written before the revival of letters: we are thereby taught the meaning of "revival" to some purpose. For those of our readers who have the same taste,—and we doubt not that they are many,—we shall devote a few lines to Walter Burley

It is fortunate for Dr. Craik that he lives in an age of more discriminating power in criti-

point de connoissance des belles lettres." Vossius convicts him of confounding Horace the poet with Horatius Pulvillus, Livius Andronicus with Livy the historian, Pliny the younger with Pliny the elder, and, worst of all, taking the poem 'De Vetulâ' for a genuine work of Ovid. Now as it is well known that the mistake about Ovid was the common property of the middle ages, the rational suspi-cion is that all the other mistakes were the same. Hence a peculiar value is stamped upon Burley's work: we see in it a mirror of the age. It is not likely that such errors were peculiar to the man; he being noted for learning, author of a vast number of works, a pupil and after-wards an opponent of Duns Scotus, and the friend and class-fellow of Occam. The critic should have read in Burley, not about Ovid and Pliny, but about the knowledge which the fourteenth century had of these classics; and he should have thought for a moment about the rate of progress, as indicated by the fact that Burley's book was keenly sought after, even in the sixteenth century, and was translated both into German and Italian.

It is true that the contents of our original history of literature provoke a smile. take Homer for an instance. The greater part of a short article is occupied with an account of the poet's death, drawn from the first book of *Policratus*, to which we refer our readers. It seems to be doubtful whether the old man was killed by some fishermen because he could not answer a riddle, or whether he did justice on himself with a rope for the same crime. The fishermen, who, it seems, had sold their fish but had worms—for bait, no doubt—still about their persons, saw the poet looking up to heaven on the sea-shore, and laughed. When he saw this -for Burley seems to have been ignorant that he was blind,-he asked why, and was answered by the invitation to solve a deep question:—
"What we took [fish] we have not; what we did not take [worms] we keep.' Homer, says Burley, turned his thoughts towards the fish, and "cogitabat qualiter hoc esse potuisset, ut videlicet nondum captos pisces haberent, et captos pisces non haberent." And so he died as aforesaid. There is a family likeness in all rude ages: our readers will be reminded of Samson's riddle, and its deadly consequences. It would have been a very useful addition to Dr. Smith's Dictionary if to each name, Burley's account of the bearer had been appended as a comparison of our literature with that of the middle ages. And Dr. Craik would have augmented the value of a very valuable book if he had given us a plain view of those differences between our foregoers and ourselves which now provoke laughter. Not merely for fun, though we hold fun to be in itself a very good thing: but for increased perception of truth. We should make the same remark on Mr. Wright's Biographia, and on most other collections of the same kind. The grotesque element is either eliminated, or introduced in insufficient proportion. Herein, we admit, lies a great difficulty:
the ever-recurring question of quantity out of
mathematics and beyond measurement. Dr. Craik and ourselves are, no doubt, agreed about the necessity of making such introduction, so far as it is necessary for true history: but when premises are agreed upon, the tantum which answers to the quantum remains unanswered, and unanswerable. We may be biassed by love of amusement, and may slip in a larger allowance than logically follows, as did the writer of the song:-

True virtue lies in golden mean, And man must wet his clay, Sir! Join these two maxims, and 'tis seen He should drink a bottle a day, Sir!

that we never walk back into the old centuries without feeling that the guide-books do not fully show us the features of the country. Some of these features, indeed, the laws of decorum require to be softened in all cases, and entirely concealed from the young. But, all necessary exception made, there is a character which ought to be given, and which can only be given by specimens. Dr. Craik has much enhanced the value of his work by the specimens which are already in it: we suggest an augmentation of their number, and extension of their character, in the next edition.

The work consists of three distinct parts. intermixed: namely, the accounts of writers the dissertations on points of language and literature; and the specimens aforesaid. On the first point, the length of the articles must vary excessively, from a few lines to hundreds of paragraphs. In this matter Walter Burley and Dr. Craik are quite at one: the first gives Eudoxus in three lines, and Seneca in thirtythree pages; the second gives Matthew of Westminster in three quarters of a page, and Chaucer in sixty-three pages. This is quite as it should be: there has been sometimes a tendency towards average length, cutting off space from the strong to add it to the weak. Of the dissertations we shall not speak: for each one is matter for an article. We prefer to catch a point or two from the mass before us, in every page of which we might find a question to ask. without blame to Dr. Craik: such is literature.

We observe, as before noted, that the specimens are perhaps fewer than they might be with advantage. This is a defect which will diminish in successive editions. We admit the distinctions which Dr. Craik has drawn between the humour of Jonson and of Shakspeare: but what a force would have been given by a short extract or two from the man of the learned sock. Perhaps a quotation from Bacon might be omitted, as not necessary even for the young student: but we cannot say the same of Hooker. Might we not suggest many points in which the learner expects a reasoned opinion? For example, Dr. Craik mentions Hallam's remark, that the authorized version of the Bible is not in the language of the time of James the First: that it is not the English of Raleigh or of Bacon. Here arises the question whether Raleigh and Bacon are the true expositors of the language of their time; and whether they were not rather the incipient promoters of a change which was successfully resisted by—among other things—the authorized version of the Testaments. We are not prepared to concede that we should have given to the English which would have been fashioned upon that of Bacon by imitators, such as they usually are, the admiration which is forced from us by Bacon's English from Bacon's pen. On this point we have a notable parallel. Samuel Johnson commands our admiration, at least in his matured style: but we nauseate his followers. It is an opinion of ours that the works of the leading writers of an age are seldom the proper specimens of the language of their day, when that language is in its state of progres We judge of a language by the colloquial idiom of educated men: that is, we take this to be the best medium between the extreme cases of one who is ignorant of grammar and one who is perched upon a style. Dialogue is what we want to judge by, and plain dia-logue: so we choose Robert Recorde and his pupil in the 'Castle of Knowledge,' written before 1556. When Dr. Robert gets into his before 1556. When Dr. Robert gets into his altitudes of instruction, he differs from his own common phraseology as much as probably which he can never lay down. A writer of and love of justice, is equally good:—both are

restrained by that dreadful dry dignity in did Bacon when he wrote morals and philo- a mere history, a work of narrative annals, may which historians delight. But this we know: sophy. But every now and then we come to end his task after the manner of Matthew sophy. But every now and then we come to a little plain talk about a common thing, of which we propose to show a specimen. Anvthing can be made to look old by such changes as makes into maketh, with a little old spelling. We shall convert these changes, using the newer form of inflexion, and the modern spell-

ing; with no other variation whatever.—
"Scholar. Yet the reason of that is easy enough to be conceived, for when the day is at the longest the Sun must needs shine the more time, and so must it needs shine the less time when the day is at the shortest: this reason I have heard many men declare.—Master. That may well be called a crabbed reason, for it goes backward like a crab. The day makes not the Sun to shine, but the Sun shining makes the day. And so the length of the day makes not the Sun to shine long, neither the shortness of the day causes not [sic] the Sun to shine the lesser time, but contrariwise the long shining of the Sun makes the long day, and the short shining of the Sun makes the lesser day: else answer me what makes the days long or short?— Scholar. I have heard wise men say that Summer makes the long days, and Winter makes the long nights.—Master. They might have said more wisely, that long days make summer and short days make winter.—Scholar. Why, all that seems one thing to me.—Master. Is it all one to say, God made the earth, and the earth made God? Covetousness overcomes all men, and all men over-come covetousness?—Scholar. No, not so; for here the effect is turned to be the cause, and the agent is made the patient .- Master. So is it to say Summer makes long days, when you should say Long days make summer.—Scholar. I perceive it now: but I was so blinded with the vulgar error, that if you had demanded of me further what did make the Summer. I had been like to have answered that green leaves do make summer; and the sooner by remembrance of an old saying that a year should come in which the summer should not be known but by the green leaves .- Master. Yet this saying does not import that green leaves do make summer, but that they betoken summer: so are they the sign and not the cause of summer.

We have taken a whole page of our author, without omission, that the reader may see that we do not pick out sentences convenient for our We have done nothing but alter the purpose. third person of the verb and the spelling: but great is the effect thereof. We say "the Sun shining makes the day": Recorde, "the Sonne shynynge maketh the daye." These points apart, we see a resemblance between our English and that of three hundred years ago, in the common talk of educated persons, which will allow us to affirm that the language of the authorized Bible must have been very close to that of its time. For we cannot admit that much change can have taken place in fifty years: and the language of the version represents both our common English and that of Recorde with very close approximation. sentences from Bacon and Raleigh, and it will be apparent that these writers will be held to differ from all three, Recorde, the version, and ourselves, by differences of the same character. But we speak of Recorde's conversation, and of our own. We conclude that it is the plain and almost colloquial character of the Authorized Version which distinguishes it from the English of Bacon and Raleigh, by approximating it to the common idiom of the time. If any one will cast an eye upon the letters of instruction written by Cecil and the Bishop of London to the translators themselves, or to the general directions sent to them in the King's name, he will find that these plain business compositions differ from the English of Bacon and Raleigh by the same sort of differences which distin-

Paris, who happened to finish in a year of jubilee (1250):-

7.—
Terminantur hic Matthæi
Chronica. Jam jubilæi
Anni dispensatio
Tempus spondet requiei.
Detur ergo quies et
Hic, et cæli solio.

But the writer of an account of literature in our day must needs continue in harness : never knowing when the call for a new edition is to come. Such works as that before us would be an unmixed source of good, if it were not for a feature of our age the blame of which does not lie on authors. Few of our readers will seriously ponder what the examination system, as now conducted, is doing for-or rather against-the mind of the country. Such a book as Dr. Craik's will be seized with avidity by the school of crammers, who are engaged in converting education-the drawing forth of the faculties-into an induction of masses of knowledge too great for digestion. We live in a day in which boys, when examined in English history, are asked because the Spaniards tried to invade England in 1588, for biographies of the principal Spanish authors who were then in existence. The time is not yet come for a struggle against this melancholy perversion of a good intent. We must wait until the increased frequency of epilepsy and other disorders among the young begins to attract the attention of philanthropists. Those who really know what education is are not strong enough to attempt anything with effect, on the side of intellect. In the mean time, if our young readers will give healthy perusal to Dr. Craik's work, they will greatly benefit by the wide and sound views which he has placed before them. But if they be compelled by the necessities of an approching examination to gorge lists of chronicles, or metrical romances, or book-clubs, they will get no more harm from the work before us than they would have got from another.

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NEW NOVELS.

The Cloister and the Hearth; a Tale of the Middle Ages. By Charles Reade. 4 vols. (Trübner & Co.)

WHATEVER Mr. Reade writes is sure to have some good substance in it—" plenty of weft," as weavers say. Mr. Reade never grudges his labour; indeed, he seems to love it for its own sake. In this present work he gives his readers plenty for their money,—and those who like to have a book which they may read in peace, without any prospect of coming too speedily to the end, and without any possible prevision of what the end will turn out to be, may here find a story to their mind. 'The Cloister and the Hearth' is full to overflowing of adventures of the most marvellous and heart-thrilling description, dangers so imminent and escapes so hairbreadth, that the reader will feel almost as nervous as if they had ended fatally. The time is in the middle of the fifteenth century; the scene is laid in many places, for there is a great deal of travelling both by land and water,—but Holland and Italy are the places where the people most concerned in the story transact the chief part of their affairs. The description of the little town of Tergou, in Holland, where Elias and Catherine, the father and mother of the hero, Gerard, reside, and the account of their domestic life, are like an old Flemish interior brought into action. Catherine, the kind-hearted, honest, prejudiced, thrifty housewife, with her

true to their own nature, and look like a pair! of portraits by Cranach. Mr. Reade has caught the spirit and colour of the age he has selected. In all the conversations, actions, manners and In all the conversations, actions, manners and customs the reader is taken back to the everyday life of that age. It was the very eve of the Reformation; the printing-press had just hecome an accomplished fact, and was beginning to send abroad its first winged sheets. Luther was not born, but the time was fast ripening for his appearance. It is a period full of interest to us. We are familiar with it: and in Mr. Reade's pages it wears the kindly aspect of an old-remembered time, instead of being a stiff imitation of a bygone state of things. The characters are all warm: the descriptions are vivid: the tone of thought and the turn of speech are consistent and probable. The first volume is the best; there is more action—the story moves briskly: and the foundation of it is well laid, giving no indication of its future course.

The loves of Gerard and Margaret,-their danger,—the fatality that hinders their legal marriage when on the very steps of the altar,
—their cruel separation,—the escape of Gerard,
—are all told well and rapidly. The description
of the German inn where Gerard takes refuge on the first night of his wandering has the air of being an interior drawn from the life; but the details are far more coarse than was necessary, and are enough to disgust fastidious readers:-there was not the least need to préciser all the horrors of the dirt and close confinement of an over-crowded lodging. There are touches of human kindness and good feel-ing put in which redeem them; but Mr. Reade might have done this, and yet left the other undone, with advantage.

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As the story proceeds it begins to drag heavily.

Mr. Reade is more anxious to show forth his own reading and research in the records of the life and times of the age than to attend to the business of the story. Indeed, his characters for awhile become mere pegs on which to hang the incidents he has gathered from books; and the pedantry spoils the interest. The knowledge he has obtained is not sufficiently assimilated; it is given too much as he found it, as though he had copied whole pages of an itinerary. Throughout the whole of the second volume the story stagnates. The style itself, being quaint and deliberate, aids this effect. From time to time the reader comes upon a flash of melodramatic adventure that quickens his interest; and these portions are effective, and well told; but though the danger incurred may be great, the reader, as he proceeds, feels sure that the escape is proportionately certain. There is an attack by robbers in an inn, which is really exciting; but when all is over, the reader pauses to observe that the bottle of phosphorus, with which Gerard smeared the face of the dead robber, and so scared back the surviving ruffians, is farfetched, and as improbable as that a traveller in these days should, if attacked by robbers, find himself provided with a complete photographing apparatus to take their likenesses, and so aid the police detective in his search after justice. Gerard's letter to Margaret is good, but far too long: it is however an excel-lent panorama of travel as performed in those days. The burning of the mill and destruction of the banditti is a fine piece of Surrey or Victoria Theatre melo-drama. The scenes where Margaret enters are the quietest and best in the work. Her reconciliation with the parents of Gerard has some true and touching traits. The plot of the two brothers of Gerard is well indicated, and it is all the more effective for being intimated, and not detailed. There

Rome, but all are too long, and want coherence. There is a drawl both in the style and in the story. We object to the effect produced on Gerard by the false tidings of Margaret's death,—it is arbitrary, and not in accordance with any previous indication; it is patched on, not developed from the character. The effect on the reader is painful, and does not in accordance with any previous indication. impress him as true in any way. The recognition of Margaret is a strongly marked situation, but it is too violent; and the subsequent portion of the story drags painfully. The reader's sympathy is thoroughly excited for both Margaret and Gerard, from the force of circumstances: but and Gerard, from the force of circumstances; but Mr. Reade protracts this portion without judg-ment or mercy. The death of Margaret is very touching; and the intimation, given quite at the end, that this story is the history of the parents of the great Erasmus, gives the reader a sense of belief and reality in all that has gone before, which is highly satisfactory. In summing up our judgment on this work, we must say that it has many merits; but that there is a coarseness of workmanship which takes away both from the value of the story and the pleasure of the reader. The work contains materials enough for half-a-dozen ordinary novels; but they need a thorough supervision and compression to make the book as good as, with the labour and research bestowed to gather those materials together, it ought to be. We have not mentioned the character of Denys, the French soldier. He is amusing, and assists the story in important difficulties :-he, however, fades out of sight as though the author had forgotten him, or found him troublesome; and his re-appearance is contrary to any doctrine of chances. Readers will accept the novel, and read it, with omissions, according to the measure of their patience.

Joseph Alleine: his Companions and Times. A Memorial of "Black Bartholomew," 1662. By Charles Stanford. (Jackson & Hodder.) In this memoir of Joseph Alleine, the Taunton Puritan, Mr. Charles Stanford has committed two faults: he has written a book for which there was no need, and has, moreover, written it from a wrong point of view, and in a reprehensible spirit. In the first place, Joseph Alleine in no respect whatever merits especial notice at this date, the few particulars that may be learnt about him by a reference to well-known biographical collections being all that any intelligent person of the present day wants to know about him. That he was born in 1634, and died in 1688; that he was educated at Oxford, and for some time assisted as an officiating minister at the parish church of Taunton; that, in consequence of his refusal to consent to the Act of Uniformity, he was ejected from his post, and subsequently became the victim of vexatious prosecution and illegal imprisonment for discharging the functions of spiritual ministration to his pious adherents; that he wrote 'Counsels and Cordials for the Converted' and other religious works, which have long since been forgotten; and that, after dying in his bed surrounded by friends, he was buried in the same church from which he had years before been ejected, are the main facts of Joseph Alleine's life of meritorious obscurity,—a life closely resembling the careers of hundreds of his own party, and hundreds of every religious sect into which the country was at that time divided. Mr. Charles Stanford adds nothing to the stock of information relating to this honest minister's career. Yet he writes a volume about him, the book for being intimated, and not detailed. There are some good scenes in Gerard's life in old newspapers, and those rather out of the

way, but by no means rare works, for which bookworms, in the milder and incipient stages of bibliomania, have invariably a strong affection. The consequence of this mode of treatment is that the reader of the memoir lays it aside with only a very vague notion as to the achievements of its subject. All the known facts are in the volume, but they are so buried in clippings from the author's commonplace books that they are, for any practical purpose, as good as lost. Into this fault Mr. Stanford has fallen, partly through measuring the knowledge of others by his own want of information. In other historia, which was the life of New York. information. In sketching the life of a Non-conformist minister of Charles the Second's reign, he appears to labour under the mis-apprehension that he is dealing with a dark and unexplored period of history. But Mr. Stanford's worst fault is his narrowness. Sectarian prejudices and provincial predilec-tions seem to have aided in contracting the range of his sympathies. For the persecutions exercised by the Puritans in their day of power he can find an abundance of palliative considerations, but for the persecutions endured by them, he is at a loss how to express his abhorrence in sufficiently strong terms. Glancing at the treatment the University of Oxford received at the hands of the Parliament in the July of 1648, Mr. Stanford expresses his respect for the victims of military violence, "those stout Carolist doctors, with their romantic devotion to the King, their high chivalry, and their noble stand for con-science"; but he adds, "yet, if we admit the University to be a national institution, it will be difficult to show why the actual Government of the day, assuming it to be the organ ment of the day, assuming to the organic organic of national opinion, and the grand executive of the national will, should not have demanded its submission to Governmental authority." But this tolerant and charitable view of State action is no longer taken by Mr. Stanford when he comes to consider the Act of Uniformity and the ministers ejected by it. It was all well in "the actual Government of the day" to "demand submission to Governmental authority" when the recusants were nothing more than stout Carolist doctors, but for "the actual Government of the day" to eject Puritan preachers for refusing "submission to Governmental authority" was—religious persecution.
"Norman and Alleine," says Mr. Stanford,
"were as truly martyrs as were Ridley and were as truly martyrs as were Ridley and Latimer. The only difference visible is this, that the two former were put to death by Romanists, the two latter by Protestants; the former died in a fire lighted by a torch—fire that wrapped the body in its waves, and did its work in an hour; the latter, in fire lighted by a legislative enactment,—the fire of sickness and sorrow that stung both body and soul—a slow, silent fire that lasted for years. Mr. slow, silent fire that lasted for years. Mr. Alleine's hour was not yet come; but, as Dr. Annesly said of him, 'it was impossible that anguish like his could continue long, and at last his sufferings for Christ hurried him to heaven in a fiery chariot.'" The delightful confusion of this passage, which represents Ridley and Latimer as dying a slow death under the persecution of a legal enactment, and Norman and Alleine as being hurri, at the Norman and Alleine as being burnt at the stake, is an example of the way in which Mr. Charles Stanford sometimes takes a lofty flight, only to drop suddenly down into a jungle of misconstruction. Writing in 1692, Samuel Annesly might be excused for adopting an exaggerated strain; but it sounds very droll coming from one of our own generation. It is pleasant to know that the ministers ejected by the Act of Uniformity had in their troubles the consolation of being able to mag-

nify themselves as martyrs for Christ's sake; but it is also certain that, if they were martyrs at all, their martyrdom was undergone for political rather than religious principles. The fact is, they were persecuted, just as their party persecuted in return when they had the chance from considerations of State policy rather than spiritual doctrine. They lived in times when religion was identified with politics, each great party in the public dissensions having amongst their insignia a particular variety of opinion on matters ecclesiastical. The body of the public were still uneducated; and even for the few who could read there were no newspapers sufficiently powerful or well managed to instruct them on the course of public events. Under such circumstances, the country congregations took their political opinions in a great measure from the pulpit, and were satisfied or discontented with the existing order of things just as their pastors counselled them. therefore, revolution and counter-revolution brought first the one and then the other of the great parties to power, it was an object of the highest importance to the leaders of the dominant interest to take the ordinary organs of public intelligence out of the hands of their determined enemies. Their friends being known by one set of opinions and their antagonists by another, they required the holders of pulpits to adopt pro tem. their views, or to surrender their places to ministers better affected towards "the actual Government." As a rule, they made no very searching scrutiny when they met with the appearance of ready obedience. Men of lax, easy principles could trim their sails and go on smoothly with any party, like the Vicar of Bray. But men of another temper, like Joseph Alleine, stood true to their colours and, on their party losing power, experienced all the discomforts of being uncompromising members of "the opposition," who refused "submission to Governmental authority."

Travelling Letters of Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy—[Reise Briefe von Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy aus den Jahren 1830 bis 1832]. (Leipsic, Mendelssohn; London, Dulau & Co.)

THE years which have elapsed since untimely death put an end to the career of the youngest of the great German musicians of the last century have brought with them no diminution of admiration for the artist, nor of affection for the man, so far as England is concerned.—We have not followed the example of Mendelssohn's countrymen, who began to disparage the value of him whom, when living, they had borne to the skies, almost ere he was cold in his grave; and many of whom compassionate our constancy as an amiable lunacy one of the inconsistent and unphilosophical freaks by which the Briton earns an unenviable reputation on the Continent. The interest among the many, the affectionate recollection cherished among the few gathered round his name, have increased and intensified themselves with time and comparison. We have more and more clearly come to see how complete was the artist, how good and gifted the man. We regard his life as one of those few fortunate histories of merited success and healthy enjoyment which mankind have been permitted to read-an example delightful to regard and precious to hold up, to those about to breathe the feverish air and to thread the perplexed mazes of the world of Art. Such being our faith, our sympathies and our convictions, the desire has naturally been earnest and strong for some complete and copious record of a life so remarkable and so full of matter.

Generally, the great musicians of Germany have fared ill at the hands of their biographers. The lives of Bach, Handel, Gluck, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, hitherto executed, make up a library of weariness. Their writers have been contented to amass facts without studying those humours and characteristics of individual nature and society which are reflected on no artist more strongly than the musician, whether he be creative or executive. The other day, when Spohr's autobiography appeared, it was found mainly an egotistic record of his early labours and concert-tours. Weber's story, one full of vicissitude and interest, has still to be written .-Here the survivors of the youngest and brightest of the company of master-singers-unable, it would seem, to cope with the biography of one over few of whose words or days the slightest shade of reserve or concealment need have been thrown, and inattentive to the fact that much material of value is perishing as the generation of those who saw Mendelssohn's youth and his early manhood is rapidly passing away, - offer merely a few materials for some one to come. They are to blame, should a portrait so full of lights and traits be inefficiently painted by stranger hands who may one day attempt it, should the real truth of a happy, virtuous, intellectual and glorious life be inefficiently told, and its high morals be so incompletely drawn out as to lose a portion of their authority and instructiveness.

What makes such reticence less explicable is the fact that the larger part of the delightful letters collected in this volume are written to Mendelssohn's father and mother, and his sisters Fanny and Rebecca—all gone!—To these he wrote with such perfect intimacy and unreserve that the happy household circle addressed is in part revealed to us by him. It is tantalizing, then, for the memorialist to have begun so late as with that Italian journey taken by him in 1830, which followed the previous year's visit to England,—an event to which he always recurred with delight, and which laid the foundation of affectionate friendships not yet closed, though their object is past the reach of human ministration.—Why have withheld all details of his early years—beginning with his birth-time, 1809? He was not himself chary of adverting to the influences which formed his character, of recalling the many privileges of the happiest childhood ever lived by boy His parents were not of that of genius. commonplace order of persons in whose hands misconstruction, or suffering, or false indul-gence is sure to be the lot of the gifted child. His mother, especially, a cordial, serene, accomplished lady, whose sympathies were given to all that is best and most honourable, and whose genial cultivation was accompanied by an absence of pretence or affectation, rare indeed in the keen and critical circles of the Prussian capital, was a person too sterling and too dis-tinguished to be forgotten by any one who came within the circle of her hospitality .-Thanks, in no small part, to her calm sense and full appreciation of the rare nature intrusted to her for training, the education of the boy was as complete, yet as clear of anything like force or stimulus (or aught that goes to make that unhappy character, a prodigy), as education could be. In music, minutes with him did the work that hours hardly effect for those less happily organized. His hands were apt in no common degree, His memory was amazing in retentiveness. If a new player or singer crossed his way, if anything unfamiliar in form of composition came before him, he did not merely enjoy, he possessed it, there and then, and for ever. And in music he had the excitement of an affectionate playfellow, only one degree less

quick and brilliant than himself—his sister Fanny. He used to tell with infinite humour how, when Kalkbrenner passed through Berlin, and was prevailed on to improvise (which, in the good days of old, was held to be an essential part of every pianoforte-player's duty), the boy and girl were astounded by a wonderful and new left-hand passage, which seemed to them, indeed, a stroke of inspiration, and which they laboured with a merry rivalry to reproduce. The thing proved an "Impromptu fait à loisir," since the passage figures at the close of one of its player's most elaborate published works—his 'Effusio Musica.'

The harmless yet precious details of those early years, when the boy, as Shortreed said of Scott, was "making himself," being unaccountably withheld,-let us make the most of these bright records of the young man's travelling time, entered on when his character was formed and the peculiar direction of his powers could no longer be mistaken.—The volume begins with a visit to Weimar, in 1830. The notices which they contain of the pleasures of the old Archimage of German literature, in the very last years of his life, are full of interest. Mendelssohn writes to his sister Fanny, with an artless vivacity, how the patriarch was charmed into sitting up till twelve o'clock at night to hear him play-how, resolved to make the utmost of his young guest, he commanded a sort of historical concert, at which he sat in a dark corner "like an old Jupiter Tonans, with his eyes flashing," while the pianist went on from master to master, winding up with an extract from Beethoven's c minor Symphony; which last the old poet digested with a certain reluctance.—It was a delight, writes Mendelssohn, to be with Goethe at table, he was so lively there, taking part in all that was passing,—or to hear him discourse on some engraving, or about 'Ernani' and De Lamartine's 'Elegies,' "or the theatre, or pretty girls!" It is evident that Goethe thoroughly enjoyed the vivacity and the versatility of his guest-and that touch of good-natured humour, so often misread by the stupid as sarcasm, which must needs belong to one so full of life and so keenly observant as Mendelssohn. The two, we fancy, met seldom after this visit, if ever

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The next letters are dated from Munich, with bits of musical news, and a short song without words for Fanny-from Linz to his motherfrom Presburg to his brother - then from Venice, the delights of which city, St. Mark's Place, and Titian's 'Assumption' and 'St. Peter Martyr'-made him forgive the horrid organplaying. In truth there was little in Italy for any one to learn in the article of music. Decay had already got hold of the country. Italian opera was to be better heard in Paris and in London, than at home. The Sistine music at Rome, however, with its traditions, still held on;and he noted the same minutely in his letters to his master, Zelter (the most exclusively devoted to musical subjects in the collection): but the influence of the land, which stirred the poetry within him, were those of scenery, buildings, pictures and Italian life. It is delightful to follow such a record of perfect happiness and genial activity of mind.-He loved to speak of those charming days in Italy, as of a happy gathering - time the preciousness of which no other course of experience could have superseded .- Yet, with the exception of his a major Symphony, some few pieces of Catholic music (among which his Ave Maria" must be instanced—a work, up to this time, not decently performed in England), and a Gondola dream or two among his small pianoforte pieces,-there is small direct trace of Italian influence in Mendelssohn's writings.

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-He days

He was essentially of the North, Northern. At imposing style by the authors—their respective Rome, he was mending his 'Hebriden' overture, addresses being placed beneath their signatures. Rome, he was mending his 'Hebriden' overture,
—setting the 'Walpurgis Night' of Goethe and however alive to the softness and glow of Italian colour, to the risings of the sun, and to the marvels of the moonlight—pondering for his own work of Art, that "Bad Weather" overture, which, among picture-music, is as definitely graphic as the "Storm" in 'The Pastoral Symphony' of Beethoven, or its writer's own wondrous bars of sea-prelude, broad and deep in their harmonious calm, to his 'Meerestille' overture.—Then, always in search for the opera-book, which never came during his lifetime, so as to enable him to plant his feet firmly on the boards of the theatre, it is remarkable and characteristic that his fancies for what was weird and grotesque did fancies for what was werd and grotesque did not melt into some temporary dream of the Southern life and beauty which he enjoyed to his very heart's core. The notion of 'Shak-speare's 'Tempest' was always uppermost with him as an opera subject. Many years later when, in the course of the transactions of the manager of a London theatre, he was not only taken at his word, but compromised by announced engagements to which he had never assented, Mendelssohn may perhaps have found his mistake, and perceived how limited is the scope which Shakspeare's exquisite dream offers to music, unless the dream be vulgarized by such amplifications and intrusions as Scribe (that most adroit but unscrupulous of carpenters) forced into the story. But in Mendelssohn's early days, and in the time of his Italian harvest, when an opera was the question, his inquiry seems always to have been for 'The Tempest.' The Paris Letters, dated 1831, which close

the volume, are written in a less happy mood than those from Italy. Some of the shrewd remarks they contain would have been tempered had they been put on record some years later. It then became Mendelssohn's wish (to use his own phrase) to "reconcile himself" with Paris. There were treaties in consideration betwixt himself and the Grand Opéra for the great stage work which was never to come. But in 1831 there was apparently something antagonistic to him in the air of the French capital. Meyerbeer's 'Robert' pleased Meyerbeer's townsman little. Cherubini (no uncommon matter) was sharp and bitter, com-plaining that Beethoven's last compositions "made him sneeze." Baillot's Quartett was delightful to him, however.—The instantaneous change of mood on his touching English ground

is curious and remarkable. If we have discussed these Letters rather than offered extracts from them, it is because there is no link in the manner of their publication which connects them with the domestic and artistic life of their writer; and because every hint towards a biography now supplied may have future value as testimony. The volume is sure to be in the hands of every one who cares for Mendelssohn and for late German music-sure to be translated into every language; but it does not stand instead of a character and a picture. We suppose it may be followed by others; but the reserve of those

Eastbourne, and the Advantages which it possesses as a Resort for Invalids; with General Remarks upon Sea-Bathing, Sea-Air, and Exercise. By Wm. Abbotts Smith, M.D., and Charles C. Hayman, M.D. (Stanford.)

who have put it forward is as strange as its

reasons are hard to divine.

That there may be no doubt as to the authorship of this brockurs, the title-page announces in large letters the names of its joint-producers, and the Preface is subscribed in even more gent classes of the community.

Dr. Charles Hayman lives on the Grand Parade, Eastbourne; and William Abbotts Smith, M.D., resides at 38, Doughty Street, London, W.C. It is to be presumed from this juxtaposition of addresses, and from the style of their literary labours, that Dr. William Abbotts Smith, of Doughty Street, and Dr. Charles Hayman, of Eastbourne, "correspond," and do their best to forward each other's professional interests. When Dr. Moore's Wiltshire clothier went for change of scene and air from Bath to Bristol, Bath physician, introducing him to a learned brother of the faculty, who sheared his sheep in the commercial town. Fortunately for the invalid, he on the road opened this note, and read that which was not intended for his eye. "Dear sir," ran the epistle, "the bearer is a fat Wiltshire clothier—make the most of him." We would not insinuate that letters of this brief and piquant character pass between Dr. Hayman and Dr. Smith; but it is not unfair to them to suppose that, when "a fat clothier," consulting the Eastbourne doctor, states his intention of proceeding to town, Dr. Hayman speaks a good word for the distinguished physician who resides at 38, Doughty Street, W.C.; and, in like manner, that when an invalid consulting Dr. Abbotts Smith expresses a wish for sea-air, the doctor says, persuasively, "You cannot do better than go to Eastbourne, and put yourself under the care of the celebrated Dr. Hayman."

It is often a difficult question to decide, whether a medical treatise, addressed by a physician to the general public, violates those rules of etiquette and decorum, on the jealous observance of which by its members the dignity of the medical profession greatly depends. There is, however, no doubt that the present work may be classed amongst "trade literawork may be classed allongs trade intera-ture." A glance is enough to discern its nature. "Eastbourne," say the friendly doc-tors, "is the most healthy town in the king-dom." There is no place like Eastbourne for health. This announcement made, the learned teachers of their fellow men proceed to enumerate the diseases which will derive benefit from a residence in that pleasant town. Ague, asthma, bronchitis, influenza, cardiac affections, somma, bronchitis, immenza, cadana anectons, consumption, debility, dyspepsia and its concomitant affections, diseases of the eye, gout and rheumatism, nervous disorders, scrofula, and one or two other affections the names of which it would be unfit to transcribe in this Bastbourne—under the superintendence of Dr. Hayman. Beyond this, the volume contains hardly anything that could not be learnt from an Eastbourne Guide Book or a Post-Office Directory. It has not a single quality that raises it above the ordinary rank of the trade circulars, sent round by those puffing druggists who endeavour to clothe their ignorance with allusions to Hippocrates and quotations from Humboldt's works. Under ordinary circumstances the correction of a professional indecorum is left to those journals which specially concern themselves with the affairs of the profession immediately affected; but unfortunately, as those journals do not usually enjoy a circulation amongst the general public, they are powerless to inflict adequate punishment on the offenders it is their duty to castigate. We feel, therefore, all the more bound to express our disapprobation of Drs. Charles Hayman and Abbotts Smith, whose conduct is likely to bring the noble profession of which they are members into contempt with the more intelliOUR LIBRARY TABLE.

History of Wesleyan Methodism. Vol. III. Modern Methodism. By George Smith. (Longman & Co.)—This volume completes a work of no common interest—henceforth belonging to every library of church history, as the account of Wesleyan Methodism carried up to the present time, and sanctioned by the members of the sect. It must have been found more difficult to write than the two preceding volumes;—since controversies and schisms, belonging to a period during which the historian has been living, can hardly be treated with unshaken steadiness of hand and calmness of temper. Mr. Smith, however, on the whole, is meritoriously free from partisan heat;—and tells the story of difficulties which will recur to the end of time, so long as private judgment and private ambition stir humanity, with a moderation greatly to be commended.—He is confident in the future of Methodism, and in the solidity of the basis on which it rests, to an extent which some of his readers will not reach; but he would not, per-haps, have been fit for his task of delegated historian had it been otherwise.

Memorials of the Rev. Joseph Sortain, B.A., &c. By B. M. Sortain. (Nisbet & Co.)—Mr. Sortain, as a persuasive and eloquent pulpit orator, was known, beloved and followed in his lifetime by persons of many different creeds and humours. We believe him to have been a conscientious and earnest man, who preached well because he was convinced that it was his vocation to preach.—It is but natural, then, that his relict should have felt it a duty, and found it a melancholy pleasure to offer a memorial of one so popular and so influentital; but she has fallen into an error too common in such cases. From his early youth, her husband kept a record of his spiritual misgivings and expe-riences, one too intimate and personal to be published with any profit. There may be something morbid in the perpetual resolution to write down symptoms; if not, the cases are rare in which the confessions of a tender and earnest spirit, doubtful and self-discouraged because of its purity of feeling and loftiness of aim, should be revealed to general perusal. This, we know, is not the prevailing taste or fancy of the biographers of religious men; for ourselves, however, the veil is too frequently lifted. In their disring again, however the very large of the property of the p lifted. In their diaries, again, how many men are scrupulously true to themselves, or do not write with some intention or covert hope that one day the eye of some sympathizing friend will peruse the tale of their struggles and sorrows? If it be so, the record must become more or less unreal. In Mr. Sortain's case, there is nothing of mark which will make his case, there is nothing of mark which will make his early day-books interesting or useful to other students who have a vocation to preach.—He was a good man, whose life and power were in his sermons.—Of these we have few notes. The book, in short (though prompted by wholesome and devout affection), is a poor contribution to the literature of the modern pulpit.

General and Descriptive Anatomy of the Domestic Animals. By John Gamgee and James Law. With numerous Illustrations. (Edinburgh, Jack.) —Veterinary education, which has no existence in Ireland, and seems here to need the aid of subsidies for its prosperity, is vigorous enough in Edinburgh. They have no veterinary college in Dublin—a fact to which the profession and its clients there appear to have only just awakened. At Camden Town we have the Royal Veterinary Col-lege, with Principal and Professors of great ability lege, with Principal and Professors of great ability and reputation, who annually equip a considerable body of students, by the aid, among others, of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. In the northern capital, however, both old and "new" veterinary colleges are prosperous and vigorous, though not endowed or subsidized, or helped by aught but the ability and energy of their teachers are prosperous and vigorous, though not endowed or subsidized, or helped by aught but the ability and energy of their teachers and professors. Competition proves in their case as efficient a guarantee for industry and activity, as efficient a guarantee for industry and activity, and, therefore, for success, as wealthy patronage or endowments prove elsewhere. Of both industry and ability we have a remarkable illustration in the literary as well as the more strictly professional labours of Mr. Gamgee, the Principal of the younger veterinary institution. A new 'Monthly

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Veterinary Record'—a 'Veterinarian's Vade-Mecum'—a book 'On Dairy Stock'—and 'Our Domestic Animals in Health and Disease'—all from the same pen, have appeared during the past twelve months; and the book entitled above is now issued, as a student's text-book of its subject, just as the winter classes of veterinary students about to meet. The book is very fully illustrated with drawings. The first part, on general anatomy, relates in great detail to the various animal tissues; the second part-descriptive anatomy-is confined to the osseous system, which is very fully described in the cases of the different domestic The work ought to have been provided with index and table of contents. Unfortuately for its usefulness as a book of reference, it has neither.

The Spirit of the Hebrew Poetry. By Isaac Tay-(Bell & Daldy.)-It is the religious spirit which is here illustrated: and the work is, therefore, not easily to be treated of at length by us. The whole is aimed at the religion of our age by Mr. Taylor, who thinks, and even says, that all departure from the theological phraseology of the Hebrew poets is almost always a step towards Mr. Isaac Taylor rides his hobby for the time being as if he had never ridden another; and David and Isaiah are the indispensable guides of all theistic thought. Those who feel inclined towards the subject will find in this work a worthy accompaniment to the others of the same author. And those who, with him, are disposed towards the idea that Hebrew poetry will be an effective opponent of the rationalizing spirit of the day, will find all the arguments of their case, and many forcibly put. For ourselves, we are strongly in-clined to suspect that the theism of the Hebrew poetry is precisely the part of the Bible which has nothing to fear from rationalism; but we must not go into the argument.

True Blue; or, the Life and Adventures of a British Seaman of the Old School. By William H. G. Kingston. (Griffith & Farran.)—In this latest G. Kingston. and most ambitious production of his pen, Mr. Kingston by no means sustains his reputation as a writer of children's stories. 'True Blue'-for so the hero of the story is named—is a sailor in the navy, who, born at sea during a storm, and reared to manhood on the salt waves, in due course fulfils Mr. Kingston's ideal of the British tar. modest, simple-hearted, vivacious and religious, True Blue is equally ready to fight a Frenchman, to blush at hearing his own praise, to refuse the proffered promotion that would put him over the heads of his mates, to dance a hornpipe, and to say his prayers. But exemplary character though he be, Mr. True Blue will not win the hearts of juvenile readers. His achievements are not those of "honest Jack." The positions in which he is placed are sometimes ridiculous from their unfitness or impossibility; and even when he is represented as pursuing a not improbable course action, the narrative still wants that tone of reality which ought to characterize children's sea-stories. But what Mr. Kingston lacks in quality he makes up in quantity. Even a purchaser may make a bad bargain by getting too much for his money. 'True Blue' is such an interminable yarn, that no child endowed with only ordinary patience will get through its pages. It might perhaps prove agreeable reading to some of the old pensioners at Greenwich Hospital.

The Stokesley Secret. By the Author of 'The Heir of Redclyffe,' &c. (Mozley.)—One of Miss Yonge's famous family histories, containing as many little boys and girls as 'The Daisy Chain.' It is rather confusing and difficult at first to distinguish one of the nine young Merrifields from the other, but they grow upon us by degrees, and their various characteristics stand out clear and distinct towards the end of the book, There is something very natural and true in the picture of school-room life: the little naughtinesses, the petty teasings, the small vexations, will be familiar to every member of a large family party. Miss Fosbrook, the young governess, is a delightful personage, and we heartily wish she could serve as

mother are supposed to be absent in London, having left their nine children in the charge of the new governess. Sam and Hal, great boys of twelve or thereabouts, are at first inclined to rebel against her authority; but, with perfect good humour and quiet firmness, Miss Fosbrook at once takes the upper hand, and the boys, admiring her courage, or "pluck," as they call it, are com-pelled to submit, in spite of themselves and of all their ancient prejudices against governesses and "London-bred young ladies." There is a good, rough, honest, unselfish girl, called Susan, "a good deal like a nice comfortable apricot in a sunny place, or a good, respectable Alderney cow,"-and a tiresome, whining, peevish girl, called Bessie, who is in a fair way to grow up "une femme incomprise,"—and a sturdy, impulsive, single-minded boy, called David, who is, surely, supernaturally forward for five years old, - and a naughty little boy, called Johnnie, and ever so many more children in the background. The great secret is this: a poor widow wants a pig to help to pay her rent, and the young Merrifields agree to save up their money and buy her one; and for all sorts of little crimes and misdemeanors fines are exacted in the Stokesley schoolroom, and the struggle to escape fines resist the temptation of spending the small weekly allowance in other things brings out the character of each individual child in many unexpected ways. Those who seemed at first sight the most pleasing, prove selfish, deceitful and weak; those who are rough and surly, come out of the trial honest, kind and true. Bessie bears a real misfor-tune bravely and well, and the rest see her true value and cease tormenting her for her finery and affectation. Though she is Miss Fosbrook's favourite, however, and is evidently intended to be the prima donna in a small way, we must own Bessie rather provokes us with her sentiment and "love of refinement," and, in real life, it would require a vast deal of snubbing to make her an agreeable child, or to turn her eventually into a sensible woman. There is much interest maintained throughout the whole story, and the catastrophe is almost affecting in its pathos. There is a good deal of fun sprinkled up and down in the course of conversation. Little David, a juvenile political economist, anxiously inquires, "'How can a pig economist, anxiously inquires, "'How can a pig pay the rent?'-''Il tell you, Davy, man,' began Henry; 'the pig is a vary according Henry; 'the pig is a very sagacious animal, especially in Hampshire, and so he smells out wherever the bags of money are sown, underground, and digs them up with his nose. Then, he swings them on his back and gives a curl of his tail and a wink of his eye, and lays them down, just before the landlord's feet; and he's so cunning that not an inch will he budge till he's got his receipt, with a stamp upon it, on his snout." This is Hal's version of the case; but, of course, the governess explains it all correctly afterwards. add to the merit of the book, there is a very clever frontispiece of a tribe of little pigs and their

mother, etched by J. B.

The Soldier's Sorrow: a Tale of True Love.
(Houlston & Wright.)—A foolish little book, professing to be the work of "an admirer of soldiers," affectionately inscribed" to a Captain E. opens in the true G. P. R. James style, with a dark and stormy night, torrents of rain, claps of thunder, &c., and "a horseman might have been seen wending his lonely way," when he "was startled by a slight noise, which seemed to proceed a few paces from him; clapping his hand on his belt, he drew forth a pistol," (in these sort of books people always carry pistols about them!), "exclaiming 'come on, my brave fellows, I'm quite prepared for a visit!'" However, there were no robbers to be seen, but only a beautiful young lady, of noble birth, who was lying by the roadside, having been dropped out of a runaway carriage and lost in the . Of course she is soon wrapped in the horseman's travelling cloak (he was so sure to wear a great travelling cloak out riding!), and carried before him on his " steed" to Nifton Hall, a modern country-house, where the young ladies put the fair unknown to bed, while the reader is entertained with "a slight sketch of the Raieley family." a model for all governesses. Capt. Merrifield, the rough sailor-father, and the overworked, delicate patient, and the following specimen of polite con-

versation ensues between them:-4' I wish you would call me Emily, says the interesting visitor.—
'I will, on one condition.'—' What is it?'—' That
you will call me by my Christian name.'—' Oh! but you are so tall; I don't think I dare.'- 'Then, I am sure, I dare not you.'- 'Now, you are making fun of me!'—'Well, if you won't promise to call me Emily, I shall not tell you my other name, and then you will be obliged to.'" If people can not take the trouble to write sense, they might at all events try to write English before they launch into authorship. The end of the story is worthy of the commencement. Alfred Raieley goes into the army, and is desperately in love with Emily Clifford, who returns his affection, but is not allowed to marry him. He goes to the Crimea, believing her false, and Emily runs away from home one day, and turns up at the Battle of the Alma. She finds her lover dying of his wounds under an oak-tree by the river-side. An explanation ensues, forgiveness are exchanged, and they are seen by one passer-by, are exchanged, and they are soon as some time afterwards, lying dead in each other's arms. We fear it will require a person to be a very ardent "admirer of soldiers" in order to appreciate this "tale of true love."

Snatches of Song. By W. S. Passmore. (Richardson & Son.)—Mr. Passmore, in a modest preface, states that his effusions "neither profess to dive to any profound depths, or to soar to any exalted heights of thought or fancy; they are simply a gathering of songs and ballads." They are songs and ballads which might have done for music, but

which we cannot recommend for perusal.

The End of the World and of Rameau's Nephew—
[Le Fin, &c., par M. Jules Janin.] (Paris,
Hetzel.)—It is possible that this book may be very clever. It is not unlikely that it may contain portions of other books, or favourite passages from past criticisms by its writer.—But it is necessary, for safety's sake, to speak dubiously-since to keep the attention to its pages and to ascertain the writer's drift are tasks of no common difficulty. This is not the first volume of heavy light reading under which we have suffered from the hands of the author of 'L'Ane Mort,' and the adapter of ⁴ Clarissa Harlowe.' The profound impression of ponderosity made by a hysterical Christmas book, some dozen years ago, recurs to us as we write; but this 'End of the World' is more unreadable

Of publications of a religious nature we have to notice:—Notes on the Epistle to the Hebrews, with Analysis and Brief Paraphrase, by the Rev. E. H. Knowles (Rivingtons),—A Critical Examination of the 'Essays and Reviews,' by an American Layman, edited by the Dean of Carlisle (Hatchard),— Tracts for the Thoughtful on Matters relating to the Religious Condition of the Age:—1. The Strife of Sects (Simpkin),—An Examination of what Roman Catholics really Believe on their Own Showing; being a Conversation occasioned by the Rev. W. H. Anderson's Tract, entitled 'What do Catholics really Believe?' edited by a Clergyman of the United Church of England and Ireland (Hodges, Smith & Co.),—Sabbath Evening Readings on the New Testament: St. James, St. Peter, St. John, St. Jude, by the Rev. J. Cumming, D.D. (Hall, Virtue & Co.),—England the Remnant of Judah and the Israel of Ephraim, by the Rev. F. R. A. Grover (Rivingtons), - Voices from Heaven to the Sojourners upon Earth: a Sermon, by the Rev. A. B. Evans (Skeffington),—Milton's Prophecy of 'Essays and Reviews,' and his Judgment of Prosecution of Them, extracted from the 'Areopagitica, a Speech to th Parliament of England for the Liberty of Unli-censed Printing; to which is added, an extract from the Charge delivered to his Clergy by the Bishop of Salisbury, on 'Unity with the Bishop of Rome' (Westerton),—Sunday Cab-Driving; and Essay, by J. Cockram (Seeley),—and the First and Second Series of The Pilgrim's Staff and Christian's Daily Walk, by Henry Smith (Houlston & Wright).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Addison's Crow's Nest Farm, cr. 8vo. 10s. ed. cl.
Ahn's New Method of Learning French, Second Course, 1s. 6d. cl.
Armstrong's The Frigate and the Lugger, 3 vol. cr. evo. 31s. 6d. cl.
Armstrong's The Frigate and the Lugger, 3 vol. cr. evo. 31s. 6d. cl.
Beamout's Concise Grammar of the Arabic Language, 18mo. 7s. cl. Beamont's Concise Grammar of the Arabic Language, 12mo. 7s. cl. Bell's Aunt Ailie, 12mo. 5s. bds. Bohn's Eng. Gent's Lib., 'Walpole's Correspondence, Vol. 8,' 9s. cl.

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No 1775, Nov. 2, '61

Donn's Stand. Lib., 'Heine's Poems, transl. by Bowring,' 3s. 6d. cl. Road Shadow on Life's Pathway, 12mc. 5s. cl.

Road Shadow on Life's Pathway, 12mc. 5s. cl.

Brown, the Hero of Harper's Ferry, cheap edit. 12mc. 1s. 6d. cl. Brown, the Hero of Harper's Ferry, cheap edit. 12mc. 1s. 6d. cl. Brown, the Hero of Harper's Ferry, cheap edit. 12mc. 1s. 6d. cl. Bunting's Pathway, 12mc. 6d. cl. Bunting's Circumstance of Minora, edited by White, new edit. 5s. cheap edit. 2s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edited by White, new edit. 6s. Dalsel's Annlecta Green. Minora, edit. edit. Minora, edit. Edit.

APPROACHES TO THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

IF we take a map of the western and south-western part of London and examine the character and disposition of the streets leading to the great centre of attraction at South Kensington, shall find the prospect of the future anything but pleasant to those who do not like to be stopped by a "block" of carriages from their journey's end, be that end business or pleasure. The closer we examine the approaches in question, the worse the matter seems, and the absolute need of something being done with all speed becomes obvious. It is no use attempting to disguise the fact—there is but one tolerable approach to the Great Build-ing, that past Hyde Park Corner, along the Kensington Road and down the Exhibition Road. Even this is subject to the terrible "narrows" of Knightsbridge between William Street and Wilton Place, where the going and the coming crowds will meet in indescribable confusion. Moreover, this route is out of the way, and can only be used, to any advantage, as a return-path for carriages, subject to the inconvenient gorge above named.

The main route for visitors will, unquestionably, be that by the top of Sloane Street, and down the Brompton Road. Here the narrows of Knightsbridge, as, for distinction sake, we shall Knightsbridge, as, for distinction sake, we shall call the perilous passage just referred to, having been passed in safety, the traveller comes upon a tortuous roadway, in few parts more than 80 or 90 feet wide; as it stands at present, irregular, crowded with loitering foot-passengers, the pavement encumbered with cheap and dirty bookstalls, multitudes of baths of every imaginable. use and form, stalls of vegetables and fruit, flaunting streamers of cotton prints, here and there a costermonger's barrow, and almost invariably a heap of stones for mending the road, to say nothing of the muddy deltas our ingenious scavengers con-struct in the kennels with Nilotic bars of cabbage stalks and straw. Now, a space of 80 or 90 feet may suffice for the display of the "Little Dustpan," or even of the glories of "The Golden Teapan," or even of the glories of the Commerce House" may flaunt its splendours therein at will; but really this small western imitation of the Mile End Road is not the best and handsomest face that might be put upon the greatest and most important approach to our International Exhibition Building. Thus much for the appearance of this dubious spot. Against its convenience as a means of access there is much to be said. It is as irregular in width as it is tortuous: here a wide, and if unencumbered, handsome footway enough will be found, but elsewhere this is

suddenly pinched in by some bold shop front that has started out from the house it belongs to, and covered the "front garden" of its original suburban days. At the corner of New Street this occurs, after which, going westwards, we navigate an encumbered footway that gradually closes itself in to about fifteen feet wide as far as Yeoman's Row, and then as suddenly opens again at Michael's Place. The roadway needs widening all along this space, and this might be done at small cost if a portion of the gardens on the north side were appropriated. We learn with great satisfaction that the owner of we learn with great satisfaction that the owner of thirty-six houses on this spot is willing to give up his ground, and that action will be taken by the Kensington Vestry in a short time upon the sub-ject. It is time such was done. The footway on the north side of this road needs repair—widening and straightening. Just before we come to Brompton Square a projecting shop needs to be set back a few feet, which with the alteration of the roadway would secure a handsome entrance at a small expense in this portion of the Brompton

It may be presumed that an immense deal of traffic will find its way through Eaton Square; and here again a handsome roadway is spoilt by a few small but obtrusive shops, which abut upon the very footpath. The road is nipped in at the end of Westbourne Street, after traversing Eaton Square, with its gardens on either hand. A few years ago fire destroyed one of the impediments at this spot, and it has not been rebuilt. The opening is 22 feet from house to house (!), to widen which it would be only needful to set back three shops on the north side, which, as there are no houses above them, might be done at the cost of about 1,000*l*., half of which, we believe, the Metropolitan Board of Works would be willing to Metropolitan Board of Works would be willing to expend if the parish would supply the remainder:

—a thing very much to its interest, and we believe fully in the feeling of the Chelsea Vestry, which deserves great credit for its successful negotiation with Government to obtain space for widening the eastern portion of the King's Road, now in progress. The parish of Chelsea, having its main eastward approach therein, is deeply interested in the improgrements as impressively do. ested in the improvements so imperatively de-manded in the Brompton Road, seeing that the immensely enhanced value of the land at South Kensington cannot but affect that of the property in the neighbouring parish. We look to see the small-housed and squalid district south of the Fulham Road rebuilt, with residences of larger

rate-producing power.

Before we leave the consideration of these eastern approaches, we may take leave to point out a new route which would, at a comparatively small a new route winch would, at a comparatively small expense, make an opening into the whole district of South Kensington, Chelsea and Brompton, affording an opportunity of constructing a handsome street of first-class houses over an open space. of market-garden behind Hans Place. By opening a roadway from Sloane Street, on the west side, immediately opposite Pont Street, across the vacant space of market ground, in a direct western line until it reached June Street, in a line with the opening of Ovington Square, a broad route would be obtained, giving access at once from Belgravia into South Kensington, Chelsea and Brompton, with the advantage of utilizing a now waste space in a quarter where house property is rapidly rising in value. The traffic might proceed along this route from the westward towards Piccadilly, and, traversing Pont Street, Belgrave Square and Halkin Street, into Grosvenor Place, would reach Hyde Park Corner, where a most desirable improvement, indeed, one of more importance than the westward extension just proposed, might be made by making a short carriage-way where is an ascending foot-path at present, opposite the end of Halkin Street in Grosvenor Place. Let a short tunnel be made at this point, under the extreme north-western end of the Queen's Gardens, opening on a rising gradient to Constitution Hill, where a roadway might cross on the level, and be carried in a direct line to Piccadilly, immediately opposite to the southern end of Park Lane. If it were thought not desirable to have a tunnel here, an open roadway in the same position would not cut

off more than a quarter of an acre, at the utmost, of the Queen's Gardens, in a neglected corner of no great value. Her Majesty has ever shown so great a willingness to add to the accommodation of the public in these matters, that we feel sure her consent has but to be asked. The cost her consent has but to be asked. The cost of this immense improvement could not amount to many thousands; and, if such energetic contractors as Messrs. Kelk & Lucas undertook its formation, there is no doubt whatever but it might be ready for public use long before May next. The carrying out our last suggestion would furnish an escape from the dangers of the crossing at Apsley House, where, even in ordinary seasons, there is always great confusion and risk, the latter especially to foot-passengers. The adoption of the first proposition would settle the question of widening the Brompton Road as well as the Knightsbridge Road (at Albert Gate), and take the traffic by a handsome and wide route from South Kensington, &c. to Piccadilly. Now, or at a convenient time, by setting back the railings of Ovington Square and removing some outhouses standing at the corner of the Brompton Road, the last erections being of very little value, a wide entry might be made in this direction. How the inhabitants of Tyburnia, Bayswater, Paddington and St. John's Wood are to get to the Great Exhibition seems at present left entirely to their own discretion in choosing Kensington or Park Lane, either of which is simply two miles round of this immense improvement could not amount

their own discretion in choosing Kensington or Park Lane, either of which is simply two miles round about, taking the northern end of the Serpentine for about, taking the northern end of the Serpentine for a centre. For years, complaints and remonstrances have been made upon the want of a carriage-road across Hyde Park: and, when we consider the accommodation afforded by the former passage, we cannot call it a street, with its turnings and varying levels, it will be easy to imagine what these remonstrances will become next year. Park Lane is a mere gorge of the most dangerous order. Either of these eastern approaches will but precipitate the north-western traffic upon the already over-crowded Knightsbridge and Brompton Roads, Kensington Turnpike, a nuisance that ought to have been long ago removed, lies like a lion in the path for vehicles coming by Kensington. The long-continued outery might be satisfied, and a great boon conferred upon the public, by the construction of a road from Kensington Gore northwards to the axele of Kensington Gore northwards to the angle of Kensington Gordens, where it might pass under Rotten Row by an elevation of the latter to no greater extent than 5 feet, owing to the difference of level between the Kensington Road and the famous ride itself. This would be no disfigurement to the Park or the Gardens. Between the carriage-way now existing, which leads to the bridge over the Serpentine, there is a deep and exceedingly useless ha-ha: let this be utilized for the new road, so that the vehicles utilized for the new road, so that the venicles traversing it would not be seen from the general level of the Park or Gardens. It would be a handsome road, shaded with fine trees,—indeed, such a one as does not exist for general use in all London. Let the Serpentine be crossed by a bridge in juxtaposition to that now existing, but on a lower level; continue the road proposed in the ha-ha on the north side, cutting off the projecting bastions of the Gardens, and carry it on in a straight line northwards to Victoria Gate, where a fine entrance already exists, or following the course of the ha-ha to Buck Hill Gate, let it debouch over against the south end of Westbourne Terrace, which constitutes in itself a splendid feeder from the extreme northwestern parts of London, or by its broad branch on the east, called the Grand Junction Road, would draw to this new route all the enormous traffic of the Edgware Road, St. John's Wood, Marylebone Road, Euston Road, even from utmost Islington, Holloway and the thickly settled districts in that quarter. All the north, north-eastern and northquarter. All the north, north-eastern and north-western parts of London would be thus accommo-dated, and their traffic find its way to the Exhibi-tion by the Exhibition Road, the least crowded of the nearer means of access. If this be not done, a glance at the map will show that these crowds must inevitably come by the Kensington and the Brompton Road, and render the confusion there worse confounded. worse confounded.

It is understood that the Commissioners of the Woods and Forests are in favour of opening the ends of the middle walk in Kensington Gardens, which passes equidistant from the Serpentine and the Round Pound in a straight line, across Rotten Row to the Kensington Road on the south notes frow to the Kensington Road on the south side. If this plan be adopted a new gate will have to be made, and the entrance will not be opposite to any road on the south, but almost mid-way between Exhibition Road and Prince Albert Road: At the north end of this proposed road there is no opposed road going east or west, but an awkward right angle would be formed by all vehicles entering the Uxbridge Road. To say nothing of these of jections, the strictly north and south direction of this road would be in itself a fatal error, seeing that the main direction of the traffic, not only during the Exhibition, but at all times, is from north-east to south-west, and vice verea: that is, directly between the largest masses of habitations respectively so situated. The number of inhabitants on the direct west of the officially proposed route, who might be benefited by the direct north and south line of the road, is not a fiftieth part of those whose convenience would be subserved by leading it in the direction we have proposed. Neither Kensing-ton Gardens nor the Park would be affected in an appreciable degree by our plan, while that last described would ruin the former, without making

so pleasant a tree-shaded track.
Our readers will see the peril of Kensington turnpike when they learn that the great railway companies are even now constructing a large station at the point where the West London Railway crosses the Kensington-road. Here the multi-tudes, coming from north, south, east and west, will be deposited from monster trains, and by an arrangement not needful to enter upon here, but perfectly practicable, any number of thousands will be brought and taken away without confusion. Here the duty of the railway companies will end, and the visitors must find their way as best they can to the Exhibition Building. What hundreds will take cabs, and how the narrow pass to the east and west of Kensington Church will be beset, we need not say; how the now crowded flagged ways will hold the jostling country-folks eager for the sight any one can guess. Something ought to be done here, but to do it by direct means is quite hopeless. Happily, a far better plan may be proposed, which is to allow a company to lay down a double horse-tramway from the station along the already existing roads to the Earl's Court Road, and then entering the open fields, either direct, or by widening the old footpaths to the Gloucester Road, crossing which last and passing along the Cromwell Road to the very door of the Exhibition itself; the trains of omnibuses might deliver their loads and return without the slightest confusion. A small fare would bring in a revenue far beyond the cost of such a simple convenience. It is known that in the last session an Act was obtained for the construction of a railway in this direction. For some reason or other nothing has been done towards carrying this out, and it is imperative that some one or some company should perform the office so neglected.

One more element of confusion remains to be examined. It is not known, we believe, whether the Government will or will not lend again the triangular piece of ground in Hyde Park, which was at the disposal of the Exhibition Commissioners of 1851, for the parting of the carriages of visitors. Every one recollects that this triangular space was be-tween the Queen's Drive and Rotten Row,—a spot rather distant from the Exhibition Building as it now stands, but still the only available space, by appropriation of which confusion and discomfort an be avoided.

SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE

Kensington, Oct. 31, 1861 HAD Milton lived in our days, and studied the "ologies," I think it would have been to them, and not to the clannish names of the North, that he would have gone for illustrations in his Sonnet on the book called 'Tetrachordon,' Surely, that hard names are the curse of modern science, must be admitted alike by the ignorant and the learned.

Science is not for the idler. No man who has the industry and ambition to become a scholar will grudge reasonable pains bestowed on the language and classification of his subject. Much force, however, lies in the word reasonable. In many branches of study, but especially in the sciences of observation, the demands made upon the student exceed, as I think, all reason. Mineralogy, organic chemistry, zoology, and physiology are all overdone with technical words, while botany (the ladies' science) is the very abyss of hard names.
This might be tolerated if the names were final. But no systematic nomenclature, which is to conform to theory, ever can be final; for the theory itself must change with advancing knowledge. seems to me that this common character of all theories has been much lost sight of by the inventors of names. Hence it is that to make ourselves acquainted with the results obtained by previous observers, we have to master in each science, not one set of names, but many systems. In botany, it would appear, that no one thought he had done useful work unless he had added something to the already overwhelming mass. As an example of what the evil amounts to, I quote a passage from a little book on British Ferns, written by an author not at all disposed to overburthen a popular work with unnecessary scholarship:—

"BRITTLE BLADDER FERN.—This fern, generally known among botanists as Cystopteris fragilis, has a host of other names. Some of these Cyathea fragilis, C. cynapifolia, C. anthisoifolia, C. dentata; Cystea fragilis, C. angustata, C. dentata; Polypodium fragile, P. cynapifolium, P. anthisoifolium, P. dentatum, P. rhesticum; Aspidium fragile, A. dentatum and A. rhæticum."

In chemistry, the researches of previous years have led to the substitution of name for name, and symbol for symbol, one after another, so many deep that one does not know the "right" appellation of wood-naphtha, or how to ask for a liquid which used to be sold as "spirits of salts," sometime (as the epitaphs say) muriatic acid, hydrochloric acid, chlorhydric acid, and lately, according to a chemical reformer, hydra-chlora, Sulphates are called thionates by the organic chemists, who run up the Greek numerals until they get to pentathionates, and I certainly thought that the acme of descriptive nomenclature had been reached "methylethylamylophenylammonium," until I found a recent author proposing to substitute for it a word three syllables longer, by way of simplification: I forget exactly how he spelt it.

Is systematic nomenclature a necessity of systematic investigation? I think not. But as the consent of authorities seems to be, in practice at consent of autorities seems to be, in practice at least, against me, I can only venture to propound the question for discussion, and to state reasons for my own opinion. The present opportunity is a particularly favourable juncture for this discussion, because most of the sciences of observation show symptoms of a change in fundamental ideas.

The applications of mathematical physics to chemistry of chemistry to the functions of animal and vegetable life—the use everywhere of improved optical methods, among which I may mention spectral analysis and examination by coloured or polarized light,—and, more than all, the increas-ing tendency to view nature as one whole, and the increasing power to perceive universality in her laws—are threatening a complete and immediate disruption of all our existing theories.

And what is a theory? Our lexicon tells us it is a way of seeing—a mode of viewing. No mathematician, no accurate reasoner, ever thinks of a theory as being true, even potentially. It is a mode of viewing the truth, changeable with our point of view, and falling short of the truth by just so much as our limited reasoning falls short of the infinite variety and complexity of the universe, which we can no more grasp in its material than in its abstract form. The finite cannot comprehend the infinite.

These observations are trite; but it is just for the want of noting them that we are encumbered with the flood of names. These have been invented, and grouped, and changed, and re-grouped, and systematized, by each new theorist as if his theory not only embraced the truth, but were the

truth. Here and there some great man, like Linnæus, saw the real meaning of his doctrine, an a guide to generalization; and of his system, as an index to his facts. But he wrote only for the learned, and those who explained his system popularly inflicted his nomenclature on the student, but failed to render his idea.

As a proof of the bad scientific habit of the botanists, I will instance what they call "the botanical census" of a country. The physical geologists have somewhat unwarily followed-or, perhaps, lazily quoted—them here, as if the enumera-tion were real rather than artificial. This so-called census does not give the slightest clue to the chance of finding a plant: it counts species, not individuals; and a nook in a hedge with a dozen different sorts of ferns or mosses counts for more than mile upon mile of brake or moorland. It tells of the system, not of the country. As if to confirm my view, Darwin's hypothesis, which seems now the favourite, looks upon species as transitory distinctions, and therefore makes all enumeration of them unreal.

It is a good thing for an objector to be able to point out a remedy. A good thing, I say, but not a necessary thing. A cook who has spoilt the dinner cannot expect his master to tell him how he should dress it; and an instructor, whose teaching is obviously bad, cannot expect a student to show him his business. Improvements can only be carried out by those who are thoroughly conversant with the details. An outsider can only indicate general principles, and give general advice. I shall content myself with suggesting the following negative rules:—Never invent a name for a thing which already possesses an exclusive one, Never alter an individual name to accord with any theory. Even if a name be not exclusive, do not distinguish, until absolute necessity arise. Look upon individual names as subjects for certainty and fixity; but upon systems as provisional modes of grouping them. Never treat as fact what is merely the consequence of a theory.

I do but ask of the botanists and chemists to follow an example already set them by mathematicians on the one hand, and by men of business on the other. What is an old treatise on botany or chemistry worth now? But the old mathematicians are still profitably read by rising menindeed, a man can do but little unless he does read them. One has certainly heard of libraries so neatly packed that, like a new plant in a botanical genus, a new book revolutionized the whole

The Whigs and the Tories are not guided by the same principles; yet one does not hear that the public offices are remodelled upon every change of administration. Business could not proceed of administration. Dustiness country upon such principles; neither can botany.

C. W. M.

HAMILTONIAN LOGIC. (No. 3.)

October 29, 1861. No reply having appeared to my two letters [ante, pp. 51 and 222], I assume that my assertions Those assertions are, 1, are undeniable. Hamilton has affirmed logicians in general to mean "possibly none" when they say "some"; 2, That possibly none when they say "some"; 2, That he has given a system of syllogism which contains paralogisms. I shall now proceed to extenuate the faults which I have pointed out. For reasons of convenience, I take the second matter first in order. This is, in brief, that Hamilton, having introduced the word "some" as signifying that what is denied of part is affirmed of the rest, and vice versa, pro-ceeds to lay down, as valid, a system of syllogistic ceeds to lay down, as valid, a system of syllogistic forms, some of which, under this meaning of "some," are absolutely invalid. As for instance, a form under which we may reason as follows: All lawyers are men; no lawyer is stone; therefore some men are not stone (i.e. the rest are).

This I called the Gorgon syllogism.

The plain truth is that Hamilton halted between two systems. This I shall proceed to show in a manner wholly independent of the phenomena which I have to explain. In two passages by his editors as useless; to be restored in the next edition—of his Prospectus of 1846 he speaks of his system as "long adequately tested and matured";

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and also as "gradually matured" in "an academical | experience as long at least as the Horatian term faine years." His academical experience began in 1836: his exposition of a system of his own began in or about 1840: his two descriptions were published in 1846. In the first quotation he speaks of what he began to teach in 1840: in his second quotation he speaks of all he had on hand in 1846. In 1840, he began to teach had on hand in 1846. In 1840, he began to teach the quantified predicate upon the common, or non-partitive, definition of "some"; that is, "some at least, possibly all"; or, at furthest, upon the singly partitive definition, "some-not-all, without any implication about the rest." On either of these definitions all his syllogisms are valid. In 1846, he had adopted the doubly partitive definition of "some"; that is, "some-only, and the rest the other way": and on this definition, as shown in my last, some of his syllogisms are invalid. In 1844, he was attacked by the bodily infirmity under which he suffered for the rest of his life. And I have no doubt that, when he returned to And I have no doubt that, when he returned to his studies after the seizure, he imagined that he had tested the whole system of syllogism upon his most recent definitions of the quantifying words. Every person who has been suddenly interrupted by those shows how are true. by illness knows how apt one is in such a case to forget the extent to which work on hand had been carried. As to his passing what I have called the Gorgon syllogism as valid inference, after actual examination, there is no need to say that it was impossible he should have done it.

Speaking subject to correction—and very desirous of it, if it can be made—I say that nothing was published before the 'Discussions' (1852) from which it could even be suspected that Hamilton which it could even be suspected that Hamilton had departed from the Aristotelian meaning of "some," except two sentences in Dr. Mansel's review of me and others in the North British Review for May, 1851. From these it cannot be ascertained whether the partitive system which seems to be intended be of the single or double character. Of these two sentences, followed in a year by the 'Discussions,' I could make nothing conclusive: and until the posthumous publication of the 'Lectures' I never felt justified in assuming that there was any departure from common meaning. On this point I shall have to enter further elsewhere.

elsewhere.

There is one question which I cannot decide. Did Hamilton mix up and confuse the two partitive systems? He never alludes to the distinction. Did he discuss the doubly partitive system when treating of the proposition, and slide into the singly partitive when he arrived at the syllogism? It will be asked who ever did such a thing?—and the answer is, that scores of logical writers have done more—have spoken of the word "some" in their preliminary explanations as if it were doubly partitive, and have been strictly and uniformly non-partitive in their subsequent use of the word. I repeat that on this point I can find nothing decisive: and I on this point I can find nothing decisive; and I suspect that no settlement will be arrived at unless some of those who heard Hamilton's Lectures can produce, from their notes, a clear account of his use of the word "some" in the system which he taught as his own from and after 1840.

A. DE MORGAN.

THE CAREER OF A NORWEGIAN PROFESSOR, Christiania, October 25, 1861.

THE venerable and learned Hansteen, Professor of Mathematics and Astronomer Royal, having sent in his resignation, a large procession, consisting of old and present students, repaired, on the 23rd of October, to the Observatory, to bid farewell to their time-honoured instructor and friend. Speeches were made and answered, and a cheerful chorus was cheerfully sung by the "Students' Singing Club," as an appropriate conclusion to the ceremony. The procession then filed by, with lowered flags, and returned to the

Perhaps a few words about this talented and

to fill the post of Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy. He was at that time twenty-two years old, and was master at a school in Fre-dericksburg, near Copenhagen. As it was not requisite for him to commence his duties before 1814, he preferred remaining abroad, in order to acquire a further insight into the practical part of

his profession.
"In 1814," he writes, "when it was necessary that I should enter upon my duties at Christiania, that I should enter upon my duties at Christiania, I was obliged to purchase a lugger, and engage the services of a skipper and a score of Norwegian sailors, who had just escaped from a six years' imprisonment in England. At this time all Norwegians were compelled, under penalty of imprisonment for life, to travel to Norway only through Sweden. This I determined not to do. Accordinals of the services of the ser Sweden. This I determined not to do. Accordingly, on July 14, I set out from Copenhagen, accompanied by my young wife and a younger brother, in an open boat. During the night we were chased by a Swedish privateer, and I had to encourage my men with draughts of brenderin, to pull their hardest. The following morning we sighted the coast of Norway, and also at the same time an English frigate. Hoping that they had not observed us we continued our course but had not observed us, we continued our course, but had not observed us, we continued our course, but were forced to bring-to after three shots had been fired, astern, ahead, and over us. After an anxious half-hour's waiting, Capt. Mackenzie, with great politeness, allowed us to proceed, and wished us a prosperous journey. My asseveration that I was going to Christiania to fill a professorial chair was going to University, and the presence of my young wife amongst the boat's crew, induced this kind-hearted gentleman to let us proceed on our

journey."

Soon after his arrival at the Norwegian seat of learning, Prof. Hansteen found that there was an error of three-quarters of an hour in the time; it was, therefore, his first care to rectify the geographical position of the capital. Accordingly, in 1815, the University erected an octagonal wooden building of six wards' disparents, were the walls. 1815, the University erected an octagonal wooden building, of six yards' diameter, near the walls of the fortress, which was fitted up with an old three-foot transit instrument, a reflecting telescope, a six-inch sextant, &c. Such was the first Norwegian Observatory. "I could not help feeling ashamed," remarks the Professor, "when strangers came and inquired after the Norwegian Observatory, to direct them to the little wooden building, which looked more like anything else than a temple of Urenia."

journey.

Moreover, as the Professor's house was situate at a distance of 1,875 yards from the Observatory, it was often difficult in winter time to arrive there at the proper moment—and "it often happened that the door was frozen so fast to the door-post that I could not get it open, and had to return home with my object unaccomplished."

In 1828 the Professor undertook a journey into

In 1826 the Professor under two years, making Siberia, where he remained two years, making those magnetic observations which have rendered his name so familiar to every scientific man in Europe. On his return, in 1830, a new observatory had been built, on the western side of the town, which is now, perhaps, better arranged than any in the whole of Scandinavia. His principal work was 'Untersuchungen über den Magnetismus der was 'Ontersuchungen uber den Magnetismus der Erde.' He also wrote 'Souvenirs d'un Voyage en Sibérie,' translated by Madame Colban. It is expected that a more voluminous account of his experiences in Siberia will shortly appear. M. R. B.

MUSIC; SCULPTURE; THE STAGE.

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Munich, October 23, 1861.

RATHEB more than a year ago, I read a statement in the Athenœum that Haydn's long-absent oratorio, 'Il Ritorno di Tobia' was shortly to be performed in Munich. Since that time, however, it has given neither sign nor sound till now, when it is promised for the opening concert of the Advent series. I trust this time the promise may be fulfilled, and that the year's interval may be fruitful as regards the execution of the work. Strangely groupd the same time has classed since another. well-known gentleman may not be deemed out of place. When the Norwegians succeeded in getting the consent of Denmark, in 1811, to establish a University of their own, Mr. Hansteen was selected Randolph Rogers's gate for the Capitol of Wash-

ington, which was cast in October, 1860, and has required the labour of a full year before it could be shown to the public. Some people complain that the works cast at the Bronze Foundry should be shown to the public. Some people complain that the works cast at the Bronse Foundry should require so much filing and elaboration, instead of issuing perfect from the actual process, and we must all wonder that so long a period should be needed. But I presume the immense amount of fine work on the panels and round the borders must be taken to justify the delay, and the satisfactory result is too evident to be disputed. I hear that the gate is to figure in the Exhibition of 1862, and its attractiveness in Munich is well shown in the fact, that 4,000 people went to see it the first day. It will easily be supposed that many of these were travelling Americans; and North and South met peaceably, admiringly, before the gates of that Capitol that one is defending against the other. I heard a pretty young lady observe that with such ornaments Washington would look like "some pumpkins,"—a national figure of speech which I quote for its smack of the soil.

There are nine panels on the gate, four down

which I quote for its smack of the soil.

There are nine panels on the gate, four down each side, and one crowning the top. In the first, Columbus is represented before the Council of Salamanca, endeavouring to prove the existence of another hemisphere, but vainly. In the second, he takes leave of his friends, mounted on the mule purchased with the money given by Queen Isabella; and in the third, he is pleading his cause before her and King Ferdinand. In the fourth, he sails from Palos; in the fifth, he lands at San Salvador, from Palos; in the ntth, he lands at San Salvador, and takes possession of the newly-discovered country in the name of his king; in the sixth he gains the friendship of the Indians by releasing an Indian maiden made captive by one of his sailors; and in the seventh, he enters triumphantly into Barcelona. the seventh, he enters trumphantly into Barcelona. The eighth and ninth show us his degradation and his melancholy end. In addition to these groups, in which there is throughout much character and great animation, Rogers has marked the time of the discovery by placing statues of all the chief contemporaries of Columbus round the door, the contemporaries of Columbus round the door, the reigning monarchs, with Cortes, Pizarro, Balboa; and between the panels are heads of the writers on Columbus and his successors, among whom Washington Irving, Robertson and Prescott are conspicuous. In other places are heads of American beasts, and festoons of fruits and flowers. On each side of the gate stands a statue destined for the Richmond monument to Washington,—Nelson who was Governor of Virginia at the breaking out of the American Revolution and afterwards a concerd

was Governor of Virginia at the breaking out of the American Revolution and afterwards a general under Washington, and Lewis in the picturesque costume of a Virginian sharpshooter.

The mention of these great works leads me naturally to speak of an inane statue King Ludwig has placed in the Promenade Platz, just in front of the "Baierischer Hof," and therefore in full view of all English travellers, to Max Emmanuel, Elector of Bavaria. The statue is erected to him in his character of stormer of Belgrade; but to readers of English history he occupies a more important posicharacter of stormer of Belgrade; but to readers of English history he occupies a more important position, as father of the prince chosen by the Partition Treaty to govern Spain, and as sharing with Tallard the honour of being defeated, at Blenheim, by the Duke of Marlborough. In his account of the Congress at the Hague in 1691, and of the French caricatures of it, Macaulay says, "In another, William appeared taking his ease in an armachair, with his feet on a cushion and his hat on his head, while the Electors of Brandenburgh and char, with his feet of a cusmon and his hat on his head, while the Electors of Brandenburgh and Bavaria, uncovered, occupied small stools on the right and left." I have not seen the caricature, but I am sure the Elector cannot be more ridiculous there than he is here on his pedestal. There he stands, with uplifted sword, on an exploded shell, without an atom of motion in face or body, his face resembling that of a sheep, and his attitude that of an awkward fencer. Many suppositions were started to account for this tameness; some would have it that King Ludwig wished to typify that remarkably mild and gentle heroism of Gaëta, which he is said to admire. I think, however, that the true meaning must lie in the result of the storning of Belgrade under the Elector, for a German authority says that garrison and inhabitants fell under the sword of the conqueror. He is evidently supposed to be quietly cutting them down.

show in enomena -omitted the next ks of his atured":

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When I add, that this statue is flanked by four of the finest heads and most expressive figures in Munich, Gluck, Orlando di Lasso, Kreitmayr and Westenrieder, you will have an idea of the in-

appropriateness of its site.

Considerable progress has been made this summer on some of the buildings of both Kings, in particular the National Museum and the Propy-laen Thor are fast approaching completion. A sitting figure of Bavaria has been placed over the former, and there are various reliefs towards the top, which are very amenable to Mr. Ruskin's criticism, expressed in his Edinburgh Lectures; they are placed so high that a powerful glass would be needed to examine them. There is a talk of making the Pinacothek more useful to artists, and of checking the system of restoration, which was d in one of the Munich papers. Hitherto, copying has not been allowed in any of the rooms where the pictures are hung on account of the floors, but now a wooden flooring is to be laid over the stucco, so that scaffoldings can be set up without damaging the floor or endangering the pictures.

The most amusing result of the trade question in Munich has been an à propos piece produced at the Court Theatre, and honoured with royal approval. The name of the play, 'Ansässig,' is taken from the laws affecting trade,—a word which means "established," for which privilege each one Though written by a noted has to petition. humourist of Munich, the play was more amusing for the novelty and realism of its characters than for its situations or its dialogue. And its charac-ters are, strictly speaking, variations on familiar figures—old friends with a new face. Instead of the hard-hearted uncle, we have the master-tailor; for the dashing young lover, the head apprentice; for the young lady, the demoiselle du comptoir; for the intriguing middle-aged woman who is to seduce the lover from his allegiance and the uncle from his respectability, the widow of a tailor, possessing the house and business of her deceased husband. These are only slight changes of the type of old high comedy, but in their present aspect they are new to the stage, and they are the necessary growth of monopoly. The master-tailor, rude and overbearing, insulting his customers, telling them it is an honour to have anything from him, whether it fits them or not, and that he cannot alter his own handiwork, turning away his apprentice of eighteen years' standing because he has applied for a concession to open a business, and abusing the liberal party in terms borrowed from the late debate in the Chambers : the apprentice, who has been engaged for years to the girl, but proposes to a widow in order to qualify himself in the only way open to him for mastertailor: the widow, who has had two husbands, and can command any further number by virtue of the Right which she has inherited :- given the system of trade, and such characters are predicable. If they are not actually drawn from the life, at least, it is said that the King recognized many traits of his own tradesmen among them.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Shakspeare's Gardens have had a most lucky escape; for we understand that among the persons who went down to Stratford to bid for the property, at the expected sale, was Mr. E. T. Smith, lessee of Drury Lane and Cremorne, and late lessee of the Alhambra. As this gentleman warmly con-gratulated Mr. Halliwell on the success of his labours, we have only to approve the sentiment, and to congratulate the public also. Let us add, that the newly-found Shakspeare portrait, of which we have before spoken to some purpose, has been placed by Mr. Hunt, the owner, in a room at the back of that in the house in Henley Street, in which Shakspeare was born. So much regard has been evinced on this occasion for the preservation of this "home of the bard," that in the room where this questionable portrait is suspended, an opening has been made in the ceiling to throw light on the face! A droller way of showing respect for the integrity of the shrine, as we find the house called occasionally, we have rarely met with. The fund

requires 600l. yet to make it complete. Mr. Halliwell declines guarantees, and will only accept subscribers of 100l. each.

The obituary of this week records the death (at the age of ninety-one) of Mrs. Pye, the widow of an ex-Laureate, whose name is hardly known to the readers of the present generation. Pye, who was "fixed a rhymer for life" by reading Pope's 'Homer' when a child, succeeded Tom Warton, in 1790, not in the enjoyment of the tierce of Canary, but of 271. a year, substituted for the old and plea sant guerdon. Pye held the laureate crown, or was supposed to hold so magnificent a symbol, was supposed to hold so hagminest a symbol, during three-and-twenty years, when much more fun was made of him than he deserved, and "Pindar, Pye et Parvus Pybus" was a phrase with which our sires were familiar. Pye had an honest admiration for Thomson, who would have been glad to have been Laureate, and whose 'Rule Britannia' shows how worthy he would have been of such an office. When Pye died, in 1813, the vocation had increase of dignity conferred on it by the appointment of Southey, who did not disdain it, as Gray proudly did, because the office had been enjoyed by mediocre men. Mrs. Pye lived to see three successors of her old master and husband, Southey, Wordsworth and Tennyson. Gray was not the only poet who refused the crown. It was alike refused by Hayley, Moore and Scott. Campbell applied for it, for the sake of the pension, when Southey died, but Peel gave it to Wordsworth. Leigh Hunt would willingly have worn it when Wordsworth passed away, and his verses written in acknowledgment of the pension conferred upon him by the Queen prove that there was the stuff of a true ourtly poet in him, but the office was assigned to Mr. Tennyson. He was the first Laureate appointed under the present reign, and it may be remembered that, considering a Queen was reigning, the Athenaum suggested the propriety of naming a poetess to wear the crown, and pointed to Elizabeth Barrett Browning as one who would confer We have spoken of honour upon the nomination. crowns and crownings; and the phrase is not yet a mere figure of speech. In March 1855, the present Queen of Spain crowned Quintana, the Spanish poet, with a gold crown, in the Senate House, at Madrid.

When Walter Scott was last at Holland House, Kensington, he said of it:—"It will be a great pity when this ancient house must come down, and give way to rows and crescents." The ancient house, built by Thorpe for Sir Walter Cope, in 1607, still stands, but "rows and crescents" are already defacing the grand old Park on the north, or Notting Hill side; and certain indications of marked allotments show that the isolated and secluded mansion will soon be shut out from public view on the south, or Kensington side. The latter suburb will then lose one of its most attractive features. The house passed, by marriage with the heiress of the Copes, to the Rich family, and thence to the Edwardes, whose chief bore the title (in the Irish Peerage) of Baron Kensington. The domain was subsequently purchased by Henry Fox, the first Lord Holland of that name, and father of Charles Fox. It is now the property of Lady Lilford, sister of the late and last Lord Hol-The house will probably disappear, as the domain is gradually covered with Scott's dreaded "rows and crescents," or, if left standing, will perhaps be converted into an "establishment" or an "hospital," as was the case with one of the old mansions at the "Bayswaterings," which some of us may remember as Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital. At all events, the character of the place will be extinguished, and will live only in men's memories, where incidents will be treasured of the gallant Earl of Holland, of the Rich family, who is said to have been the devoted admirer of Henrietta Maria; of the legends which give the green sward here as the scene of conferences between Cromwell and his most trusted generals; of the gay scenes enacted there in the great Republic time, and, indeed, of a later period, when the house was the rendezvous of the wits among the Whigs, and Lady Holland made the boldest of them stand in awe of her, except Sydney Smith,

who was fearless in the presence of the most audacious of women. The journals of Moore will be of use to the future historian of the house, around which so much is perishing. The avenue down which Sheridan used to walk unsteadily into the town, is no longer recognization, where he used to and Eve" tavern in Kensington, where he used to tarry and get a little "more drunk" on his way, town, is no longer recognizable; and the "Adam is as changed also, for the finer and the worse. Of all the good things uttered in this now departing house, the first Lord Holland of the Fox line gave expression to one, perhaps the most genuine for its quiet humour. When the Earl was dying, George Selwyn, who so loved to see executions, left his card. "If Mr. Selwyn should call again," said the moribund Lord, "show him up. If I am alive, I shall be glad to see him. If I am dead, he will be glad to see me." In the last century, the north side of the Park was the only pleasant portion of the long and dreary walk from Tyburn to Shepherd's Bush. It was a promenade which began and ended in any but a lively manner; for in Tyburn Field stood the permanent gallows, and at the east corner of Shepherd's Bush Common two ghastly gibbets reared their disgusting height, and held, rocking in the wind, the rattling bones of murderers "hung in chains."

"Hang educational purposes; let us amuse our selves! is said to have been the exclamation of a writer growing old and very weary in a pursuit which he found of small profit. His suggestion seems to have been widely acceptable; and amuse ment takes precedence of instruction. That great educational temple at Sydenham has discovered its most attractive professor in Blondin, and that renowned Funambulist pockets, as his honorarium for a single performance on the rope, as much as a hard-to-live curate, or an anxious Keeper of Manu-scripts in the British Museum, earns in a year. The question is, on what resource will the Directors of the Crystal Palace rely when the marvels of M. Blondin cease to attract? They must look for something "sensational," and will probably find what they look for. Again, that part of the public who amuse and do not instruct themselves at home, are conscious of increase of appetite for highly-spiced and remarkably startling romances; and we observe, that their appetite is very well attended to, albeit with great peril to all that is pure, natural and healthy, and to the reputation of the author himself, whose book, once read, is laid aside for ever. It can hardly be said to be as bad as this on the stage, since two large bodies of the public are nightly resorting to see the traditional and the non-traditional 'Othello.' At Drury Lane, boast is made of keeping to "the text of the Immortal Bard," that being of English theatres the one where Cibber's text has the oftenest shut out Shakspeare's. But there must be a public of lower tastes than these; for a London theatre, whose pieces are duly licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, announces this week three attractive but, we should say, not educational dramas, for performance, namely-'The Last Words of Bill Jones; or, the Spectre by Sea and Land'; to be followed by 'The Brigands' Haunt'; the whole to conclude with 'Horsemonger Lane Joe; or, the Child of the Hempen Widow.' Are not these dainty dishes for the intellectual sustenance of a public, to admit whom to a National Gallery on a Sunday afternoon would be set down as wickedness, with a very forcible adjective in front of it?

Having recently referred to the saving of the Crown Jewels in the fire at the Tower twenty years ago, we add a line to render justice to an active public officer on that occasion, the late Fitzmaurice Pierse, of whom Mr. E. Swifte, Keeper of the Crown Jewels, thus wrote to the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police:-"His services were of much importance to me in the necessary measures (which, as Keeper of Her Majesty's Jewel House, I took) for the preservation of the Regalia. He was entrusted by me, alone, at the inside, and he remained there until the last, handing to me the several articles, with the greatest steadiness and care, while the heat and the danger were rapidly increasing around us.'

A visitor to the Dresden Gallery has a word to

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say for Henry the Eighth:—"I do not know," he remarks, "whether it has occurred to any one since the publication of Mr. Froude's 'Henry the Eighth' to notice the singular confirmation afforded by Holbein's portrait of that monarch in the Dresden Gallery, to the views maintained in Mr. Froude's work. I was by no means predisposed to accept this, unexpected testimony, but on a recent visit I could not resist the impression produced by that pale, careworn face, full of thoughtful sadness, gazing at me with grave, but kindly eyes. The lips are colourless, and alightly parted, but capable alike of wrathful or of gentle utterance; the checks furrowed, every crow's-foot, wrinkle and line of thought exquisitely delineated, and very suggestive. It was totally unlike the bluff and brutal countenance with which I had been familiar. It was eminently a presence I had been familiar. It was eminently a presence which might inspire affection as well as fear. Repeatedly turning to this wonderful picture, to me next in interest after the 'Madonna,' I came away feeling that, after all, Froude may be right."

Mr. Turner, the London agent to Messrs. Hachette & Co., the French publishers, sends the following correction of a statement respecting Dorés Dante's Inferno:—"Your statement in Dorf's Dante's Inferno:—"Your statement in the Athenœum of the 19th inst. respecting Dante's Inferno, illustrated by Gustave Doré, is totally at variance with truth. Your Correspondent states that, having purchased for 5l. a copy of the book, which was subsequently advertised for 100 francs, his remonstrance drew from the publishers an admission of the original overcharge, and an offer of 3s. in compensation for a difference in price amounting to 20 per cent. or 20s. The assertion is untrue. No complaint has ever been made to me by any purchaser of the work at 5L; nor have I ever offered, on the part of Messrs. Hachette, 3s. for a claim of 20s."

Arrangements have been made at Naples, as in other parts of Italy, for sending works of Art to the Great Exhibition, to be held in London next year. The Italian Government has already decided to accept exclusively, all works produced after 1777. The principle on which they proceed is this:—To-wards the end of the last century the Fine Arts in Italy, after a long decadence, assumed a new form and life; and dating therefore from this time, the wish is to illustrate a period which was distinguished at its commencement by the genius of a Canova and at its commencement by the genius of a Canova and of the Appiani. A commission has been chosen by the Institute of Fine Arts in Naples for the reception of works presented by the inhabitants of those provinces, and the following persons compose it:—Cav. Smargiassi, landscape-painter, President; Enrico Alvino, architect, Secretary; Cav. Alojsio Invara, engraver; Cav. Tito Angelini, sculptor; Achille Catalano, architect; Teodoro Duclere, landscape-painter; Cav. Mancinelli, painter; Francesco Piscenti, engraver; Gennaro Rico, naînter.

A Correspondent writes from Florence:- "Sebastiano Pennisi, a Sicilian gentleman, whose powers of thought and extent of acquirements are indeed extraordinary, considering the misfortune he has suffered, I believe, from birth—total blindness has suffered, I believe, from birth—total bindness—published at Aci Reale, a few years ago, a work small in scale but pregnant in ideas, 'On Human Knowledge in regard to the Subjectivity of Ideas,' certainly worthy of notice for intrinsic merits, irrespective of the circumstances under which it was produced, the circumstances under which it was produced, and the early age of the author (not yet much past twenty), who gives such high promise of intellectual activity. The comprehensive grasp of the history of metaphysics in modern Europe, and the familiarity enabling to appreciate philosophic schools, whether of Italy, France or Germany, that these pages display, would be creditable to mental powers cultivated under the most favourable circumstances—in the case of a very young writer afflicted with blindness, might be called marvellous. Suffice it here to observe, that the philosophic views Signor Pennisi adopts for himself have the decidedly eclectic character,—steering a just course between extremes, and neither leaving too much to materialism or idealism,—opposed, in regard to some propositions, to Gioberti, and generally admitting the conclusions of Kant. He sees

the harmony between the essential principles of religion and the deductions of philosophy; and exemplifies that preference for the clear and rational, the healthful atmosphere and lucid argurational, the heattrith atmosphere and flucht argu-ment, by which the leading minds in Italian metaphysics have eminently, indeed almost inva-riably, been distinguished. His conclusion is an earnest appeal to the intellectual ambition of his earnest appeal to the intellectual ambition of his countrymen, in the desire of stimulating to progress in these speculative walks; and his last recommendation is, that profoundly meditative study be given to the works of Machiavelli, Galilei, Vico, and, above all, St. Thomas Aquinas, a writer evidently studied and thoroughly appreciated by him. In an appendix we have an interesting notice of another extraordinary man, alike instancing the mental energies that triumph over decressing calamity. Vincenso Tedeschi, Professor. instancing the mental energies that triumph over depressing calamity, Vincenzo Tedeschi, Professor of Philosophy at the Catania University, who became blind in boyhood, yet when still quite young was familiar with mathematics, physics, astronomy, natural history, physiology, and the social sciences in general; surpassed all competitors in the concorso at that University for the professorship of Physics, but, on account of his misfortune, was postponed to another candidate, as naturally incapacitated for this chair, though immediately appointed to another, which he continued to occupy till his death, a septuagenarian, tinued to occupy till his death, a septuagenarian, in 1858. Signor Pennisi, his disciple and friend, pays eloquent tribute to the memory of this gifted and admirable professor, whose most remarkable work was the 'Elements of Philosophy,' one of many productions, among which his 'Grammatica Generale' is here culogized as 'alone sufficient to display the wonderful profundity of his genius."

By a letter recently received from Sir R. Schomburgk, it is evident that the royal family of Siam is determined not to vegetate like their predecessors, but to see the world. Sir Robert says:—"A steam fleet, consisting of two screws belonging to the Prime Minister and one of the First King's, the Irine Minister and one of the First Aing's, the latter having two sons of His Majesty on board, paid a visit recently to Singapore, Penang, and Malacca. They were much pleased with their reception, and the King requested me to return 'his heart-felt thanks' to the authorities. The Second King is building a fine steam-frigate, and he says as soon as she is ready he will go in her to Singapore. The First King has signified his approval of a proposition, emanating from the Protestants at Bangkok, to build a church, and has promised to contribute towards its erection from the royal treasury." Sir Robert Schomburgk adds, that it is intended to make a promenade and drive for the residents at Bangkok, and that efforts are also making to erect lighthouses at the entrance of the river on which Bangkok is situated, the navigation of which is extremely intricate.

Major Count Berlichingen-Rosehach has just published a 'History of the Knight Götz von Ber-lichingen with the Iron Hand, and of his Family.' This comprehensive work contains for the first time the complete documents, with the deposition of the witnesses and the sentence, of the legal prothe witnesses and the sentence, of the legal proceedings against Götz, on account of his participation in the Peasants' War. These documents, which would fill a decent volume of themselves, form only the fourth part of the work. It begins with the autobiography of the knight, after the best manuscript, which is preserved in the castle Neuenstetten, in Suabia. Then follow 180 records, mostly all hitherto unprinted; and, as an addition, the history, description and copy of the celebrated Iron Hand. The history of the family of Götz von Berlichingen, from the most ancient times to our days, concludes the interesting book.

by himself, and when complete to consist of six volumes.—Mr. Evans read a communication from M. de Koehne, Conseiller d'État of St. Petersburg, 'On the System at present in vogue in cataloguing Coins for Sale,' in which he advocated giving further description of the coin, and distributing them into smaller lots.—Mr. Williams read a paper, communicated by W. B. Dickinson, Esq., 'On Chinese Knife-Money,' in which he suggested that the origin of the Chinese copper money was the gradual diminuition of the blade and handle of the knife till only the suspensory ring was left, which exactly represents the present coinage of the country.—Mr. Madden read a paper, communicated by R. S. Poole, Esq., 'On a Coin from the Cyrenaica, presented to the British Museum by — Crowe, Esq., H.M. Vice-Consul at Ben Ghazze.' It bears the two letters K K, and one of them, no doubt, stands for KYPANAION, whilst the other, according to Mr. Poole's suggestion, probably represents KOINON, which form occurs singly on the coins of the Cyrenaica of the Ptolemaic period. Some interesting remarks on the above word followed; and Mr. Poole concluded his naper with the coins of the Cyrenaica of the Ptolemaic period. Some interesting remarks on the above word followed; and Mr. Poole concluded his paper with the remarks, "that the coin was very rare; that there was only one other, engraved, from the French Collection, in MM. Fallé and Lindberg's work; and that there the letter (of which only one is given) was represented as a X_i, and not a $Ka\pi\pi a$, which error the Museum coin would correct."

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mox. Entomological, 8.

Terrs. Photographic, 8.

Wzb. Second Seco

Dawson.
THUB. Linnean, 8.— W. African Tropical Orchids, 'Dr. Lindley;
'Structure of the Anther, 'Prof. Oliver; 'Gentiances,'
Oliver, 'Action of certain Gases on Alkaline
Certain Cases on Alkaline
Peroxides,' Mr. Harcourt; 'Results of Analyses of
Coppers, 'Messr. Abel & Field,' Occurrence of Bismuth
in Copper Minerals,' Mr. Field.
FMI. Astronomical, 8.

FINE ARTS

INTERVIEW BETWEEN WELLINGTON AND BLUCHER AFTER WATERLOO.

WE have the satisfaction of being able to announce the rapidly-approaching completion of the grand painting upon which Mr. Maclise has been engaged for about eighteen months past. Finding that the process of fresco-painting was imperfectly adapted for subjects requiring multiplicity of details, Mr. Maclise proceeded, in the autumn of 1859, to Germany, to make researches as to the practice of the stereochrome, or water-glass method of painting. Fully satisfied with the peculiar adaptability of the new system for his purpose, he adopted and has wrought it with even greater success than could have been anticipated.

We need not describe the process itself; but refer our readers to papers formerly published in the Atheneum on the subject, and to Mr. Maclise's recent letter to the Commissioners on the Fine Arts, and appended to their last Report. Mr. Maclise is perfectly satisfied with his experiment, and more than one of the artists now painting at Westminster express the same conviction, and are

and more than one of the artists now painting at Westminster express the same conviction, and are adopting the new material. If no other advantage was afforded by the new process that of dispensing with the preliminary cartoon is immense. Mr. Maclise considers such a preparation unnecessary.

The picture in question is executed upon one of the large compartments, which are forty feet long, of the Royal Gallery in the New Palace at Westminster. Nearly in the centre of the work is placed the Duke, mounted upon Copenhagen; Blücher, also mounted, grasps the hand of Wellington with characteristic force and fervour,—his eager, resolute face, with his grizzled moustache, his grey hair and keen grey eyes—hard, strong and grim—show beneath the Prussian travelling cap he wears. He has just moved his horse to go, and yet again pulls him up to clasp the victor's hand, whose work he is now about to finish, for it has been settled between the Generals that the The picture in question is executed upon one of has been settled between the Generals that the pursuit should be taken up by the Prussians, while

the tired and war-worn English rested upon the field of battle. Tired and war-worn is the Duke, calmer, mere resolute and still than the demonstrative Prussian. The composition forms itself into great masses, very skilfully designed to emphasize this central group of the Duke and General, and without obviously declaring the employed to that end, resolving itself into sections which are subservient to a grand whole. along the back of the picture the English cavalry pursuing the flying French artillery and waggen train down a hill and upon its rising creet. mediately behind the heads of the Generals is the name of the inn, "La Belle Alliance," appropriately written upon a board fixed against the side of the The ruined roof, the torn walls, the slow wreaths of smoke that rise through the denuded rafters, the deserted dove-house, whose inmates the war has frightened away, are all signs of the havoc that has been going on, and even yet not

ceased, as the flying artillery shows. Like two wings of the composition, on either side of the Generals is grouped the Staff of each, characteristically different in expression;-Prussians are intelligent, absorbed in the interview before them, or impressed by the great event which has taken place, and very eager to pursue and revenge their country upon the French, for many cruelties and wrongs,-but they look hard and fierce from that very cause; while the English, and heree from that very cause; while the English, although grave enough, seem glad and joyful without sternness or ferocity, their fresh, ruddy faces contrasting strongly with the grey sallowness of the others. On the Prussian side, next to Blücher, ride Gneisnau, the commander, to whom the pursuit was given, with white plumes in his hat, Nostitz, Bulow—an old, yellow man, in a blue cost leaded with covers. Nostitz, Bulow—are the set of the second stress of the second stress. blue coat loaded with orders, -Ziethen, and others: amongst them a Brunswick officer, with the skull and cross-bones on his shako, and nearest to the front, mounted upon a magnificent white horse, rides Sir Hussey Vivian (Lord Vivian) in a hussar's dress. On the Duke's side is a group of officers, few, indeed, of note, seeing that nost of the heroes of the fight had been rendered hors de combat before the meeting took place. Just behind the Duke are General Somerset and Lord Arthur Hill (Lord Sandys), and between them is seen the face of the Hon. Henry Percy, who bore home the despatches and the captured cagles. A few of the 2nd Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards Blue, in the blue or red uniforms of each corps, such as the fortunes of the day had left in their saddles, to form the Duke's escort, left in their saddles, to form the Duke's escort, make up this wing of the composition. Some of them cheer, waving their sabres; one bears an eagle, and another the shot-torn banner of his regiment. The shakos, helmets and bearskins worn by each body respectively, have been grouped and got together by the artist with wonderful skill, so that they fall into harmonious masses of fine correction.

fine composition. No part of this extraordinary picture deserves more unqualified admiration than the grouping of the horses, with the immense variety of their act and even their expressions. Solid, alive, vital, as it were equine, and magnificently drawn and grouped are these animals. The steed Blücher is grouped are these animals. The steed Blücher is mounted upon is full of the fire of his fierce master, and seems bent upon dashing off. Wellington's famous animal, Copenhagen, stands with gingerly delicacy and grace amongst the slain; his glossy eems to twitch and his grave eye to look commiseratingly about. Hardly inferior to these are the black horses of the English Guards, which form a mass of solid colour gravely contrasting with the lighter bays mounting the Prussians on the other side, to which last the most magnificently painted white horse ridden by General Vivian forms a luminous central point of brilliant colour, that will win the admiration and delight of every spectator.

This horse of General Vivian's is a very important element of the composition, not only by centralizing and illuminating the whole of that side of the composition by its colour and brilliant treatment, but by its action connecting the upper group of riders with the line of wounded and slain men lying upon the ground athwart the front of the

Carabineer, whose breath has gone for ever. Beside this Carabineer lies a wounded Englishman: next is a French Cuirassier, and then a Highlander, who, having been wounded in the arm, has had a tourniquet applied to it. He is a piper, and has blown his instrument with his latest breath; for the surgeon, who left the tourni-quet upon his limb, will find, indeed, more pressses to attend to, seeing that he is going beyond the reach of human ministration. he is left, with outstretched arm and fingers strained and rigid; beside him, fallen from grasp, lie the pipes he will never blow more and the steel-hilted claymore, that failed to save him from the winged Death. Above are two Irishmen, frantically cheering their victorious countryman the Duke, and waving their caps; these are Connaught Rangers. Next, beyond this, is a group about a captured gun, over which lies a French Artillery officer's body, just as he died to defend his command, and a Cuirassier dead upon the ground before the muzzle; the gun-carriage has been shat-tered and the gun itself indented by English shot. Below lies an English colour-sergeant, disabled by a wound in his leg, which an hospital orderly ban-dages up. This is an Englishman, and his face, confessing but not succumbing to pain, is finely

On the other side of the composition, behind the Duke, are several groups; a Highlander, a Footguard and a Fusileer carry off the body of a youth of twenty-two years of age:—this is the "young gallant Howard," mentioned with grief by Byron. He has been struck down just at the end of the battle, and leaves a young widow and unborn child to mourn the terrible war. The faces of his atten-dants, full of tender commiseration, are perfectly expressive and apt. Upon the ground lies an Eng-lish general officer, wounded in the breast, attended by a Light Dragoon, a Foot-guard and a drummer. Nearer the centre, three of the Life Guards, whose contorted faces show the pain the effort costs them brandish their sabres and cheer. Their trumpeter lies dead in the front, his silver instrument battered by a musket-ball, its embroidered, beard-like banner across his knees. Quite in the centre, and seen between the horse's legs, lie more of the wounded and the dead. Removed from this, and at the extreme left of the picture, is the wounded white orse of a Cuirassier, madly striving to rise from under his master's body, which, thrown almost from the saddle, lies athwart the carcase of another hosse, whose eyes are just glazing in death. Against the margin of the picture lies a tall Ennishillen Dragoon, badly wounded, his helmet off, attended by a comrade. On a gun above these lies a dying Hanoverian, to whose lips a priest holds the crucifix. with wondrous earnestness of expression,—a com-panion holds up the heavy head. A Sister of Mercy and a Vivendière regard the scene; the last, hardened but commiserating, holds a glass of spirits for the dying man, taken from her barrel. Behind her and upon the frame of the gun is placed a knapsack filled with crosses, jewels and gew-gaws torn from the slain; these a roundheaded infant, the woman's child, plays with. All about the field are scattered arms, stoven-in drums broken musical instruments, spent shot and shat-tered shell. Behind, the flying French artillery, ambulance waggons, and ammunition earts tear along in a fearful rout, hotly attacked by English cavalry. This, like an arch, binds in the whole composition, that has in itself all the finest qualities of Art, especially well applied to its purpose here of architectonic decoration.

A certain sculpturesque character of design and grouping has been wisely adopted by Mr. Maclise, which gives a singleness of look to Maclise, which gives a suggestion to the whole, however broken up it may be by the groups we have attempted to describe. perfect judgment, the artist has carefully ab-stained from introducing any personages or incidents which do not pertain to his design; even so rigidly has this been done, that all the great men who were wounded in the early part of the engagement, and not, therefore, at this time present, have no place here.

It remains but to speak of the execution of this The animal snuffs at the face of a magnificent picture in some of the qualities which

constitute its technical value. It may appear supererogatory to refer to a certain hardness and want of atmospheric gradation or even clearness of grouping in design, which in one or two minor points renders it difficult to account for the action porms renders to difficult to account for the action of certain figures. These points are few indeed. Mr. Maclise has produced phases of isolated colour which are beyond praise. Subdued as his work necessarily is by its architectonic character and the nature of the material employed, it is nevertheless surprisingly strong and vigorous and delightfully harmonious to an artist's eye. In this respect we need not say it far transcends anything Mr. Maclise has yet produced. In imitative power nothing can be more satisfactory. Finished, but not frittered into littleness, every portion keeps its place, while the peculiar character and quality of every substance and every texture represented are given with perfect fidelity.

FINE-ART GOSSIP .- Mr. E. M. Ward has obtained from the Liverpool Society of Fine Arts the prize promised by them for the best picture contributed to their current Exhibition, the work so distinguished being 'The Last Mements of Charles the Second,' recently in the Royal Academy. This artist's fresco of the 'Flight of Charles the Second with Jane Lane,' to which we alluded last week, has been placed in its proper position in the Commons corridor of the Houses of Parliament. Considerable as had been Mr. Ward's success in the works previously exe cuted in the series of national commissions intrusted to him, he has made a great advance in executive power in that last produced. A greater depth of tone and more complete mastery of the material have followed advanced practice, so that the work is unusually vigorous and broad in treatment, admirably kept together, and a more perfect whole than almost any painting with which it can be compared. The colour is warmer, softer and richer, notwithstanding an excess of coldness in the blue of the sky background; even this, however, is less in degree than it strikes the spectator at first sight, for we have to make full allowance for the appropriate autumn effect, the glow of the for the appropriate autumn energy, the grown and the warmth of colour judiciously employed in the cutumes of the figures. After a little study we become familiarized with this peculiarity, and it may be, error. The great attention to nature Mr. Ward has given in developing his design is more than enough to make the spectator overlook a far greater shortcoming than that alluded to: from this faith in nature it probably arose that this this faith in nature it probably arose that the slight want of balance strikes the eye. Such fid-lity is well rewarded by the artist's success is dealing with the design itself, the effective power of the two figures, which tell with admirable solidity, and the great variety and beauty of the colour in many parts of the picture. Every one knows the story of how the fugitive passed through the ranks of a detachment of Parliamentary soldiers, who were actually on the look-out for him, he being disguised as a well-to-do rustic, convoying the lady upon a rough farm-nag. Mr. Ward has overcome the technical difficulty of composing the two figures on horseback, with great power. The half-humorous expression of Charles and the terror of his companion are excellently given. The former sits well in his saddle: a partly-suppressed air of military horsemanship and training is cleverly hinted at as something different from the slouch of a rustic rider. The horse itself is capitally designed, drawn and modelled; its air of the station on first stepping into the water—it is to the ford of Stratford-on-Avon the scene is supposed to have taken place—tells well: this posed to have taken place—tells well: this perpensed by the drag forwards of the beast's hoof, feeling the stream, as it were, before he ventures well into it. An old tree, its leaves tawny with artumn tints, overhangs the bank with brawny arms and rugged trunk. Behind are the trooper above named, the spire of the church wherein Shakspeare is buried, the banks of the Avon and a few trees growing upon them; the river fills up the foreground.

Mr. Foley has a commission to execute a bronze

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statue of Mr. John Fielding, of Todmorden, near Manchester, a gentleman well known through his active benevolence in obtaining a remission of the hours of factory labour, and by other public services. This work, which has been liberally subscribed for, is to be placed at Todmorden, the residence and birthplace, we believe, of the person in whose honour it is erected.

Tourists in Yorkshire will find Seamer Church about five miles from Scarborough, well worthy of a visit. A good deal of mischief has been done to a visit. A good dear of miserable restoration and the exection of a tower, the design of which is poor to the last degree. A notable feature of the old building remains in the turret, holding the Sanctusbuilding remains in the survey, nothing the Sanctuan-bell, placed, as usual, outside, over the chancel arch, and rung to this day for ordinary services, by a rope within. The bell itself remains. Within the church some matters of interest present themselves: the Norman clerestory windows on the south and half of the north side: in the remainder of the north side a window of me the remainder of the north side a window of decorated character has taken the place of the clerestory and side lights. There is a late decorated screen with some paintings; coarse modern restora-tions of shields of arms, of the Leeds family, we believe, upon them. Above the central opening of this screen, giving access to the chancel, is a stump this screen, giving access to the chancel, is a stump of wood peering over the topmost moulding. From its situation we conclude this to be the foot of the rood or cross which was anciently placed there. A disused vestry, leading off from the altar, has its high pointed stone roof and fireplace of early date; on the exterior of this portion of the church may be seen the original chimney belonging to this fireplace. Some indents for monumental brasses and less important matters may be seen also. The may be seen the original chaining belonging to the fireplace. Some indents for monumental brasses and less important matters may be seen also. The old vestry is greatly neglected. It is damp, with alimy dirt upon the floor, with tall ferns actually growing by the fireplace and between the stones of the pavement.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN, under the Management of MISS LOUISA PYNE and MR. W. HARRISON.—Continued Great Success of HOWARD GLOUER were considered to the success of the WARD GLOUER were, to commence at Seven o'clock, GEORGETTES WEDDING, Miss Thirlwall and Mr. Henry Corri. After which, at Eight o'clock, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, the New and greatly-successful Opera of RUY BLAS. Supported by Miss Louisa Pyne, Mesdames Susan Pyne, Thirlwall, Jessic M. Lean; Messrs, Santley, A. St. Albyn, Patey, and Mr. W. Harrison.—On FRIDAY, at Eight o'clock direst timely, and Mr. W. Harrison.—On FRIDAY, at Eight o'clock direst timely, Chyllad and Henry Haigi, Miss Susan Pyne and Madame Guerrabella ther First Appearance on the English Stage).—Conductor, Mr. Aifred Mellon.—The Box-Office open Daily, from Ten till Fire. Commence at Seven o'clock.

DRURY LANE.—On Monday Mr. G. V. Brooke appeared for the first time in London, after an absence of eight years, in the character of Ortello. Mr. Brooke is, perhaps, little aware of the alteration effected in theatrical tastes during his residence in the colonies; but in no long time the difference will force itself upon his attention. He will find that he can no longer depend on decla-mation, however finely or musically intoned, nor on the ordinary stage-expedients to which he had been accustomed. An original view of character will be demanded, and an abandonment of, rather will be demanded, and an abandonment of, rather than an adherence to, old traditions. Nor will the public be any longer satisfied with a play being supported by one performer, and the inferior parts intrusted to nobodies. Yet this is the condition in which the management have placed Mr. Brooke, who stands alone in his Othello, unsupported by any actor capable of impersonating either Iago or Cassio,—with an exceedingly feeble Desdemona and an extremely boisterous Emilia. Mr. Brooke suffers from this want of completeness in the appointments, and the consequent want of attractiveness in the general performance. In its general style and execution, his Othello is much what it was; but it is no longer attended with the same appointments, and the consequent want of attractiveness in the general performance. In its general style and execution, his Othello is much what it for instance, in the fifth act, we find that the book directs Desdemona to quit her bed, and fall interior life and feeling. All the points are made mechanically, as well as ever they were, but they are no longer accompanied with the same electric influence. There is manifest a want of aim, of intellectual perception, and of moral insight. He has become heavy, too; disproportionately pon-

derous in his delivery, and he loads his sentences with emphases which are exaggerated as well as too frequent. This is to be the technical elocutionist rather than the actor. Of genuine acting, indeed, there is but little;—action and attitude are forthcoming at stated intervals, but no sponare forthcoming at stated intervals, but no spon-taneous motion as the index to thought and feeling awakened at the moment. Mr. Brooke must modify all this, if he would regain his ascendancy. But human life has no second spring, and he will find it hard to recover the inspiration of his youth. nnd to hard to recover the inspiration of his youth. It is true, that it was as an executant that he won his earliest laurels, and a brilliant executant he still remains;—but he must be something more, in these days of invention and competition. He must also insist on having justice done to his efforts by the management, if his present engagement is to eventuate either to his profit or honour.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Booth appeared on Monday in 'Richard the Third.' It is scarcely to the credit of his taste that he preferred Cibber's version in 'Richard the Third.' It is scarcely to the credit of his taste that he preferred Cibber's version to the Shakspearian tragedy. The quiet tone that he adopted would have better fitted the poet's idea than that of the playwright. As usual, he reserved himself for the traditional points, and got over the level ground as rapidly as possible. Owing to this unseemly haste many a phrase escaped the emphatic utterance to which it is entitled. As on former occasions, he was badly supported—so badly, that portions of the fourth and fifth acts were received with laughter. In these days of theatrical reform managers should not permit Cibber's Richard to be substituted for Shakspeare's. The original tragedy, as produced by Mr. Phelps, at Sadler's Wells, some years ago, commended itself to the taste of judicious audiences, and was perfectly successful. Every such step in the way of theatrical reformation should be accepted as "an accomplished fact"; and no respectable management ought to go back to the old fashion, but rather should persevere in an onward and upward directive. should persevere in an onward and upward direc-tion. In that direction, too, lies the only real path to profit; and it is one wherein ambition and duty may be reconciled,—wherein, in fact, they are identified.

OLYMPIC.—'A Legal Impediment,' a new farce, by Mr. John Oxenford, was produced on Monday, in which Mr. Robson performed the eccentric hero. It was the actor's first appearance since his illness, and he was received with acclamation.

PRINCESS'S.—M. Fechter's performance of Othello commands full houses, and occasions interminable controversies in the journals. This is partly caused by the fact that M. Fechter has published his version of 'Othello,' with the stage directions at full, which are observed in the repre-sentation at this theatre. The work is presented, too, as the instalment of a design on which M. too, as the instalment of a design on which M. Fechter has bestowed nearly twenty years' study. This adds fresh importance to his present attempt; and some critics and players are up in arms in defence of threatened tradition. M. Fechter has, in fact, and in plain terms, provoked the combat. In his Dedication to Mr. Richard Lane, he calls upon such coadjutors as he can enlist in his cause, "to press forward, to say the foundations of that worm-eaten and unwholesome prison where dramatic art languishes in fetters, and which is called Tradition!" Tradition!

To the credit of M. Fechter, it may be stated To the credit of M. Fechter, it may be stated with truth that his stage-appliances have not excluded histrionic talent, but, on the contrary, have brought it out. The tragedy of 'Othello' is well cast and well acted; and the directions of his book have conduced to the end of a better representa-

her passage, carries her to the bed, on which he throws her; then stiftes her cries with the pillow, which he presses with both hands." Something like this is certainly done in the opera of 'Otello'; but such melo-dramatic action would certainly not be acceptable in a poetical tragedy, and M. Fechter has reason to congratulate himself that he listened to good counsel, and did not attempt this piece of business on Wednesday week. We are not, therefore, to accept M. Fechter's book as one having authority beyond its approved utility; but simply as a well-meant effort on the part of a foreigner to introduce improvements in the mode of representing great dramatic works on the stage of his adoption.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—For the season just opened, and which will virtually last till the Exhibition of 1862 closes, artists are already arriving or announcing themselves.—Herr Reichardt is here again.—Among total strangers, we are apprised, from Leipsie, that M. Davidoff, principal and solo violoncello of that excellent orchestra (the fact of itself an introduction), intends to come to London early in the spring.—The sisters Marchisio are advertised to appear at St. James's Hall in January.

since our last publication a note has been published, by Signor Costa, in reference to the report to which we gave currency last week; requesting any who may be concerned in the testimonial scheme to forbear from carrying it out, and stating that he has received the utmost testimonial which he could desire, in the regard of which he has been for many years the object.

for many years the object.

Among other announcements of the week is Mr. Martin's, who, on behalf of the National Choral Society, states intentions of giving concerts at Exeter Hall during the winter to audiences exclusively composed of military officers and soldiers, who must all appear in regimentals—the explanation of the step stated being a desire to promote a taste for choral music in the army.

The disturbed state of American affairs is-The disturbed state of American affairs is—as was inevitable—telling on public amusements. There is, however, to be an attempt at foreign opera in New York during the winter,—and one singer who may appear there, Miss Kellogg, is said by the Musical Review to be in negotiation with Mr. Gye, of our Royal Italian Opera.

with Mr. Gye, of our Royal Italian Opera.

A letter from that persevering letter-writer Signor Rossini, published in the French papers, confirms the rumour of the coming 'Titan.' The composer addresses M. Royer, the manager of the Grand Opera, and begs for the loan of four bass singers—MM. Belval, Cazaux, Faure and Obin—who are to execute the composition in unison. Signor Rossini describes it as a simple chaunt, "with a Titanic rhythm," out of the common style,—and pledges himself that it contains neither trill, expected, chromatic scale, nor roulade. No one arpeggio, chromatic scale, nor roulade. No one need be surprised should the affair prove to include some piece of mystification.

some piece of mystification.

The following requires no comment:—
"You have fallen into a slight error in referring certain expressions attributed to Beethoven to Paer's opera entitled 'Leonora.' In the Musical World of the 7th of July 1860 I endeavoured to show that it was impossible for Beethoven to have known anything of Paer's opera previous to his having commenced his labours upon his 'Fidelio.' It is true Beethoven might have seen the score before Paer's opera was publicly performed; but it is an unquestionable fact that Paer's 'Leonora' was never performed in Vienna until 1809, four years after Beethoven had seen the fluxo which his opera had made.—I am, &c., JOHN TOWERS."

A new ballet-opera, 'Le Neveu de Gulliver,' by

M. Pougin's monograph on Campra, which has been appearing in the Gazette Musicale, pleasantly lengthens the series of similar studies by him, to which any historian to come of French music will refer, as containing material and minute details overlooked elsewhere.

Herr Ernst, whose health continues in the melancholy state which has long been a matter of grave concern to his friends, has, nevertheless, it is said in the Gazette Musicale, composed a small opera, which is to be produced next season at Baden.—Mdlle. Artot, who has taken the place of a first opera favourite in Germany, is about to sing a part at Prague in the Czech language.—At Berlin the coronation operas have been 'Armida' (always performed with great splendour in the Prussian capital) and Spontini's 'Nourmahal.' The other operas of the pompous time were 'Les Huguenots,' 'Die Zauberflöte,' and M. Von Flotow's 'Miller of Méran.'

The effect produced by 'Alceste,' which has surprised those most sanguine on the subject, has naturally stirred up retrospect as to other Greek operas worth reviving. Sacchini's 'Œdipe,' which had a vogue in its day, has been talked of:—as compared with the Greek music of Gluck, his predecessor—Sacchini's music is feeble, faded, antiquated. What is more new, composers are furbishing up their ideas of Electras, Medeas, and other antique heroines, with an eye to future triumphs.—We hold with some sensible remarks in the Gazette Musicale on the subject, fancying like their writer that such researches will hardly have a happy issue. Among the old operas on classical subjects, formerly extant by hundreds, none have stood the test of time, except Gluck's. Where are 'La Clemenza' and 'Idomeneo'? Where is 'Gli Orazi'? With Madame Pasta Medea left the stage—for the one tragedy on the subject which might be still tried with some hope (Cherubini's, of course) is made all but inaccessible by the fatiguing nature of the principal part. Even 'La Vestale' of Spontini may be said to linger rather than to live on the stage.—Nor have more modern efforts been felicitous. The great beauty of 'Sapho,'—the third act of which is probably the best third act of a first opera ever written—has been till now imperfectly felt by the many, owing to their want of sympathy in the story, or because there is too much or too little of the antique in the music.—The conclusion towards which these speculations tend is far too much lost sight of by those who are occupied in Art. It is too much forgotter that, in music at least, when absolute perfection has been attained, in any style, the risk of repetition and comparison amounts to a mighty drawback.

MISCELLANEA

Storm Signals.—I find on inquiry at this place [Ramsgate] that it is not the custom here to hoist the storm signals of Admiral FitzRoy. It may be of importance at the present season to draw attention to this circumstance, as the continued omission of such act may lead in some case or cases to loss both of life and property. The situation of Ramsgate as a tidal harbour of refuge, and for the small craft mainly, points to the expediency of early warning being afforded to them whilst passing. The master of any crazy or worn-out craft could then, in case the tide should be favourable, at once avail himself of the shelter of the harbour. Now, from lack of any such notice, he proceeds on his voyage, brings his vessel to an anchor when overtaken by contrary, bad weather, loses anchors and cables, and then, after enduring anxiety and distress, runs for this most difficult port, to the danger of life and ship. Altogether, the exhibition of these signals is not only a necessary, but a very easy matter, at this place. By simply fitting the mast on which the harbour-depth of water is announced with a cross-jack-yard, a most capital machine would be arranged for publishing far and wide the storm signals.

To Correspondents.—J. A. L.—L. J. T.—N. B. B.—A Subscriber—J. D.—L. S. O'C.—W. B. D.—Justus—received.

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